

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

☒ QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2024

or

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____
Commission File Number: 001-39464

HighPeak Energy, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its
charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or
organization)

84-3533602

(I.R.S. Employer Identification
No.)

**421 W. 3rd St., Suite 1000
Fort Worth, Texas**

(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

76102

(Zip Code)

(817) 850-9200

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not applicable

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	HPK	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC
Warrants to purchase Common Stock	HPKEW	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files).

Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ☐
Non-accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☒
Smaller reporting company ☐
Emerging growth company ☒

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes ☐ No ☒

As of October 31, 2024, there were 126,625,221 shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, issued and outstanding.

HIGHPEAK ENERGY, INC.
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HIGHPEAK ENERGY, INC.

Definitions of Certain Terms and Conventions Used Herein

Within this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (this “Quarterly Report”), the following terms and conventions have specific meanings:

- **“10.000% Senior Notes”** means the \$225.0 million aggregate principal amount of our 10.000% Senior Notes due 2024, which were issued pursuant to an indenture in February 2022 and repaid in full in September 2023.
- **“10.625% Senior Notes”** means the \$250.0 million aggregate principal amount of our 10.625% Senior Notes due 2024, \$225.0 million of which were issued pursuant to an indenture in November 2022 and \$25.0 million of which were issued pursuant to an indenture in December 2022 and repaid in full in September 2023.
- **“3-D seismic”** means three-dimensional seismic data which is geophysical data that depicts the subsurface strata in three dimensions. 3-D seismic data typically provides a more detailed and accurate interpretation of the subsurface strata than two-dimensional data.
- **“ASC”** means Accounting Standards Codification.
- **“ASU”** means Accounting Standards Update.
- **“Basin”** means a large natural depression on the earth’s surface in which sediments generally brought by water accumulate.
- **“Bbl”** means a standard barrel containing 42 United States gallons.
- **“Bcf”** means one billion cubic feet.
- **“Boe”** means a barrel of crude oil equivalent and is a standard convention used to express crude oil and natural gas volumes on a comparable crude oil equivalent basis. Natural gas equivalents are determined under the relative energy content method by using the ratio of six thousand cubic feet of natural gas to one Bbl of crude oil or NGL.
- **“Boepd”** means Boe per day.
- **“Bopd”** means one barrel of crude oil per day.
- **“Btu”** means British thermal unit, which is a measure of the amount of energy required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.
- **“Collateral Agency Agreement”** means the Company’s Collateral Agency Agreement, dated as of September 12, 2023, by and among HighPeak Energy, Inc., Texas Capital Bank, as collateral agent, Chambers Energy Management, LP, as term representative, Mercuria Energy Trading SA, as first-out representative prior to giving effect to that certain Collateral Agency Joinder – Additional First-Out Debt, dated as of November 1, 2023, and Fifth Third Bank, National Association as first-out representative after giving effect to that certain Collateral Agency Joinder – Additional First-Out Debt, dated as of November 1, 2023.
- **“common stock”** or **“HighPeak Energy common stock”** means the Company’s common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share.
- **“Completion”** The process of treating a drilled well followed by the installation of permanent equipment for the production of crude oil and natural gas, or in the case of a dry hole, the reporting of abandonment to the appropriate agency.
- **“Credit Agreement”** means the Term Loan Credit Agreement and the Senior Credit Facility Agreement.
- **“DD&A”** means depletion, depreciation and amortization.
- **“Development costs”** Costs incurred to obtain access to proved reserves and to provide facilities for extracting, treating, gathering and storing the crude oil and natural gas. For a complete definition of development costs, refer to the SEC’s Regulation S-X, Rule 4-10(a)(7).
- **“Development project”** A development project is the means by which petroleum resources are brought to the status of economically producible. As examples, the development of a single reservoir or field, an incremental development in a producing field or the integrated development of a group of several fields and associated facilities with a common ownership may constitute a development project.
- **“Development well”** A well drilled within the proved area of a crude oil or natural gas reservoir to the depth of a stratigraphic horizon known to be productive.
- **“Differential”** An adjustment to the price of crude oil, NGL or natural gas from an established spot market price to reflect differences in the quality and/or location of crude oil, NGL or natural gas.
- **“Dry hole”** or **“dry well”** A well found to be incapable of producing hydrocarbons in sufficient quantities such that proceeds from the sale of such production exceed production expenses and taxes.
- **“Economically producible”** The term economically producible, as it relates to a resource, means a resource which generates revenue that exceeds, or is reasonably expected to exceed, the costs of the operation.
- **“EUR”** or **“Estimated ultimate recovery”** The sum of reserves remaining as of a given date and cumulative production as of that date.
- **“Exploratory well”** An exploratory well is a well drilled to find a new field, to find a new reservoir in a field previously found to be productive of crude oil or natural gas in another reservoir. Generally, an exploratory well is any well that is not a development well, an extension well, a service well or a stratigraphic test well as those items are defined by the SEC.

- **“Extension well”** An extension well is a well drilled to extend the limits of a known reservoir.
- **“FASB”** Financial Accounting Standards Board.
- **“Field”** An area consisting of a single reservoir or multiple reservoirs all grouped on, or related to, the same individual geological structural feature or stratigraphic condition. The field name refers to the surface area, although it may refer to both the surface and the underground productive formations.
- **“First Amendment”** means the First Amendment to Senior Credit Facility Agreement, dated March 29, 2024, by and among HighPeak Energy, Inc., as borrower, Fifth Third Bank, National Association, as administrative agent, the guarantors party thereto and the lenders party thereto.
- **“Formation”** A layer of rock which has distinct characteristics that differs from nearby rocks.
- **“GAAP”** means accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- **“Gross wells”** means the total wells in which a working interest is owned.
- **“Held by production”** Acreage covered by a mineral lease that perpetuates a company’s right to operate a property as long as the property produces a minimum paying quantity of crude oil or natural gas.
- **“HH”** means Henry Hub, a distribution hub in Louisiana that serves as the delivery location for natural gas futures contracts on the NYMEX.
- **“HighPeak Energy”** or the **“Company”** means HighPeak Energy, Inc. and its subsidiaries.
- **“HighPeak I”** means HighPeak Energy, LP, a Delaware limited partnership.
- **“HighPeak II”** means HighPeak Energy II, LP, a Delaware limited partnership.
- **“Horizontal drilling”** A drilling technique used in certain formations where a well is drilled vertically to a certain depth and then drilled at a right angle within a specified interval.
- **“HighPeak Contributors”** means HighPeak I, HighPeak II and HPK GP.
- **“HPK GP”** means HighPeak Energy, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company.
- **“Hydraulic fracturing”** is the technique of stimulating the production of hydrocarbons from tight formations. The Company routinely utilizes hydraulic fracturing techniques in its drilling and completion programs. The process involves the injection of water, sand, and chemicals under pressure into the formation to fracture the surrounding rock and stimulate production.
- **“Lease operating expenses”** The expenses of lifting crude oil or natural gas from a producing formation to the surface, constituting part of the current operating expenses of a working interest including labor, superintendence, supplies, repairs, short-lived assets, maintenance, allocated overhead costs, workover, marketing and transportation costs, insurance and other expenses incidental to production, but excluding lease acquisition or drilling or completion expenses.
- **“MBbl”** means one thousand Bbls.
- **“MBoe”** means one thousand Boes.
- **“McF”** means one thousand cubic feet and is a measure of natural gas volume.
- **“MMBbl”** means one million Bbls.
- **“MMBtu”** means one million Btus.
- **“MMcf”** means one million cubic feet and is a measure of natural gas volume.
- **“Net acres”** The percentage of total acres an owner has out of a particular number of gross acres or a specified tract. As an example, an owner who has 50% interest in 100 gross acres owns 50 net acres.
- **“Net production”** Production that is owned by us, less royalties and production due others.
- **“NGL”** means natural gas liquids, which are the heavier hydrocarbon liquids that are separated from the natural gas stream; such liquids include ethane, propane, isobutane, normal butane and gasoline.
- **“NYMEX”** means the New York Mercantile Exchange.
- **“OPEC”** means the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.
- **“Operator”** The individual or company responsible for the exploration and/or production of a crude oil or natural gas well or lease.
- **“Plugging”** A downhole tool that is set inside the casing to isolate the lower part of the wellbore.
- **“Pooling”** The bringing together of small tracts or fractional mineral interests in one or more tracts to form a drilling and production unit for a well under applicable spacing rules.
- **“Principal Stockholder Group”** means HighPeak Pure Acquisition, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and wholly owned subsidiary of HighPeak I, the HighPeak Contributors and Jack Hightower and each of their respective affiliates and certain permitted transferees, collectively.
- **“Prior Credit Agreement”** means the Company’s Credit Agreement, dated as of December 17, 2020, as amended from time to time, among HighPeak Energy, Inc., as Borrower, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as administrative agent, and the Lenders party thereto.
- **“Production costs”** Costs incurred to operate and maintain wells and related equipment and facilities, including depreciation and applicable operating costs of support equipment and facilities and other costs of operating and maintaining those wells and related equipment and facilities. For a complete definition of production costs, refer to the SEC’s Regulation S-X, Rule 4-10(a)(20).
- **“Productive well”** A well that is found to be capable of producing hydrocarbons in sufficient quantities such that proceeds from the sale of the production exceed production expenses and taxes.

- **"Proration unit"** A unit that can be effectively and efficiently drained by one well, as allocated by a governmental agency having regulatory jurisdiction.
- **"Prospect"** A specific geographic area which, based on supporting geological, geophysical or other data and also preliminary economic analysis using reasonably anticipated prices and costs, is deemed to have potential for the discovery of commercial hydrocarbons.
- **"Proved developed nonproducing reserves"** or **"PDNP"** means proved reserves that are developed nonproducing reserves.
- **"Proved developed producing reserves"** or **"PDP"** means proved reserves that are developed producing reserves.
- **"Proved developed reserves"** means proved reserves that can be expected to be recovered through existing wells with existing equipment and operating methods and can be expected to be recovered through extraction technology installed and operational at the time of the reserve estimate and can be subdivided into PDP and PDNP reserves.
- **"Proved reserves"** Those quantities of crude oil and natural gas, which, by analysis of geosciences and engineering data, can be estimated with reasonable certainty to be economically producible – from a given date forward, from known reservoirs, and under existing economic conditions, operating methods, and government regulations – prior to the time at which contracts providing the right to operate expire, unless evidence indicates that renewal is reasonably certain, regardless of whether deterministic or probabilistic methods are used for the estimation. The project to extract the hydrocarbons must have commenced or the operator must be reasonably certain that it will commence the project within a reasonable time.
 - (i) The area of the reservoir considered as proved includes: (A) the area identified by drilling and limited by fluid contacts, if any, and (B) adjacent undrilled portions of the reservoir that can, with reasonable certainty, be judged to be continuous with it and to contain economically producible crude oil or natural gas on the basis of available geoscience and engineering data.
 - (ii) In the absence of data on fluid contacts, proved quantities in a reservoir are limited by the lowest known hydrocarbons as seen in a well penetration unless geoscience, engineering or performance data and reliable technology establishes a lower contact with reasonable certainty.
 - (iii) Where direct observation from well penetrations has defined a highest known crude oil elevation and the potential exists for an associated natural gas cap, proved crude oil reserves may be assigned in the structurally higher portions of the reservoir only if geoscience, engineering or performance data and reliable technology establish the higher contact with reasonable certainty.
 - (iv) Reserves which can be produced economically through application of improved recovery techniques (including, but not limited to, fluid injection) are included in the proved classification when: (A) successful testing by a pilot project in an area of the reservoir with properties no more favorable than in the reservoir as a whole, the operation of an installed program in the reservoir or an analogous reservoir, or other evidence using reliable technology establishes the reasonable certainty of the engineering analysis on which the project or program was based; and (B) the project has been approved for development by all necessary parties and entities, including governmental entities.
 - (v) Existing economic conditions include prices and costs at which economic producibility from a reservoir is to be determined. The price shall be the average during the 12-month period prior to the ending date of the period covered by the report, determined as an unweighted arithmetic average of the first-day-of-the-month price for each month within such period, unless prices are defined by contractual arrangements, excluding escalations based upon future conditions.
- **"Proved undeveloped reserves"** or **"PUD"** means proved reserves that are expected to be recovered from new wells on undrilled acreage or from existing wells where a relatively major expenditure is required for completion. Undrilled locations can be classified as PUDs only if a development plan has been adopted indicating that such locations are scheduled to be drilled within five (5) years, unless specific circumstances justify a longer time.
- **"PV-10"** When used with respect to crude oil and natural gas reserves, PV-10 means the estimated future gross revenue to be generated from the production of proved reserves, net of estimated production and future development and abandonment costs, using prices and costs in effect at the determination date, before income taxes, and without giving effect to non-property related expenses, discounted to a present value using an annual discount rate of 10%. PV-10 is not a financial measure calculated in accordance with GAAP and generally differs from standardized measure, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure, because it does not include the effects of income taxes on future net revenues. Neither PV-10 nor standardized measure represents an estimate of the fair market value of our crude oil and natural gas properties. We and others in the industry use PV-10 as a measure to compare the relative size and value of proved reserves held by companies without regard to the specific tax characteristics of such entities.
- **"Realized price"** The cash market price less all expected quality, transportation and demand adjustments.
- **"Recompletion"** The process of re-entering an existing wellbore that is either producing or not producing and completing new reservoirs or enhancing existing reservoirs in an attempt to establish or increase existing production.
- **"Reserves"** Reserves are estimated remaining quantities of crude oil and natural gas and related substances anticipated to be economically producible, as of a given date, by application of development projects to known accumulations. In addition, there must exist, or there must be a reasonable expectation that there will exist, the legal right to produce or a revenue interest in the production, installed means of delivering crude oil and natural gas or related substances to market, and all permits and financing required to implement the project.
- **"Reservoir"** A porous and permeable underground formation containing a natural accumulation of producible crude oil and/or natural gas that is confined by impermeable rock or water barriers and is separate from other reservoirs.

- **“Resources”** Quantities of crude oil and natural gas estimated to exist in naturally occurring accumulations. A portion of the resources may be estimated to be recoverable, and another portion may be considered unrecoverable. Resources include both discovered and undiscovered accumulations.
- **“royalty”** An interest in a crude oil and natural gas lease that gives the owner the right to receive a portion of the production from the leased acreage (or of the proceeds from the sale thereof) but does not require the owner to pay any portion of the production or development costs on the leased acreage. Royalties may be either landowner’s royalties, which are reserved by the owner of the leased acreage at the time the lease is granted, or overriding royalties, which are usually reserved by an owner of the leasehold in connection with a transfer to a subsequent owner.
- **“SEC”** means the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.
- **“Senior Credit Facility Agreement”** means the Company’s Credit Agreement, dated as of November 1, 2023, among HighPeak Energy, Inc., as Borrower, Fifth Third Bank, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent, and the lenders party thereto.
- **“Service well”** A well drilled or completed for the purpose of supporting production in an existing field. Specific purposes of service wells include natural gas injection, water injection, steam injection, air injection, salt-water disposal, water supply for injection, observation, or injection for in-situ combustion.
- **“Spacing”** The distance between wells producing from the same reservoir. Spacing is often expressed in terms of acres, e.g., 100-acre spacing, the distance between horizontal wellbores, e.g., 880-foot spacing or the number of wells per section, e.g., 6-well spacing. It is often established by regulatory agencies and/or the operator to optimize recovery of hydrocarbons.
- **“Spot market price”** The cash market price without reduction for expected quality, transportation and demand adjustments.
- **“Standardized measure”** The present value (discounted at an annual rate of 10 percent) of estimated future net revenues to be generated from the production of proved reserves net of estimated income taxes associated with such net revenues, as determined in accordance with FASB guidelines as well as the rules and regulations of the SEC, without giving effect to non-property related expenses such as indirect general and administrative expenses, and debt service or to DD&A. Standardized measure does not give effect to derivative transactions.
- **“Stratigraphic test well”** A drilling effort, geologically directed, to obtain information pertaining to a specific geologic condition. Such wells customarily are drilled without the intent of being completed for hydrocarbon production. The classification also includes tests identified as core tests and all types of expendable holes related to hydrocarbon exploration. Stratigraphic tests are classified as “exploratory type” if not drilled in a known area or “development type” if drilled in a known area.
- **“Term Loan Credit Agreement”** means the Company’s Term Loan Credit Agreement, dated as of September 12, 2023, by and between HighPeak Energy, Inc., as borrower, Texas Capital Bank, as administrative agent, Chambers Energy Management, LP, as collateral agent, and the lenders from time-to-time party thereto.
- **“Undeveloped acreage”** Lease acreage on which wells have not been drilled or completed to a point that would permit the production of commercial quantities of crude oil and natural gas regardless of whether such acreage contains proved reserves.
- **“Unit”** The joining of all or substantially all interests in a reservoir or field, rather than a single tract, to provide for development and operation without regard to separate property interests. Also, the area covered by a unitization agreement.
- **“U.S.”** means the United States.
- **“warrants”** means warrants to purchase one share of HighPeak Energy common stock at a price of \$11.50 per share.
- **“Wellbore”** The hole drilled by the bit that is equipped for crude oil and natural gas production on a completed well. Also called well or borehole.
- **“Working interest”** The right granted to the lessee of a property to explore for and to produce and own crude oil, natural gas or other minerals. The working interest owners bear the exploration, development and operating costs on either a cash, penalty or carried basis.
- **“Workover”** Operations on a producing well to restore or increase production.
- **“WTI”** means West Texas Intermediate, a light sweet blend of crude oil produced from fields in western Texas and is a grade of crude oil used as a benchmark in crude oil pricing.
- With respect to information on the working interest in wells and acreage, “ **net**” wells and acres are determined by multiplying “ **gross**” wells and acres by the Company’s working interest in such wells or acres. Unless otherwise specified, wells and acreage statistics quoted herein represent gross wells or acres.
- All currency amounts are expressed in U.S. dollars.

The terms “development costs,” “development project,” “development well,” “economically producible,” “estimated ultimate recovery,” “exploratory well,” “production costs,” “reserves,” “reservoir,” “resources,” “service wells” and “stratigraphic test well” are defined by the SEC. Except as noted, the terms defined in this section are not the same as SEC definitions.

Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (this "Quarterly Report") includes "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). All statements other than statements of historical facts included or incorporated by reference in this Quarterly Report, including, without limitation, statements regarding the Company's future financial position, business strategy, budgets, projected revenues, projected costs, and plans and objectives of management for future operations, are forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are based on the beliefs of management, as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, the Company's management. In addition, forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "believes," "plans," "expects," "anticipates," "forecasts," "intends," "continue," "may," "will," "could," "should," "future," "potential," "estimate" or the negative of such terms and similar expressions as they relate to the Company are intended to identify forward-looking statements, which are generally not historical in nature. The forward-looking statements are based on the Company's current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about the Company and the industry in which the Company operates. Although the Company believes that the expectations and assumptions reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable as and when made, they involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict and, in many cases, beyond the Company's control. In addition, the Company may be subject to currently unforeseen risks that may have a materially adverse effect on it. Accordingly, no assurances can be given that the actual events and results will not be materially different from the anticipated results described in the forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. The Company undertakes no duty to publicly update these statements except as required by law. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the Company's expectations include, but are not limited to, the Company's assumptions about:

- our ability to refinance or pay, when due, the principal of, interest or other amounts due in respect of our indebtedness;
- our liquidity, cash flow and access to capital;
- the supply and demand for and market prices of crude oil, NGL, natural gas and other products or services, and the associated impact of our hedging policies relating thereto;
- capital expenditures and other contractual obligations, including our obligations under our Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement;
- the results of our ongoing strategic alternatives review process;
- political instability or armed conflict in crude oil or natural gas producing regions, such as the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, the Israel-Hamas conflict and the Israel-Iran conflict;
- volatility in the political, legal and regulatory environments ahead of the upcoming U.S. presidential election;
- political and regulatory uncertainties associated with the upcoming U.S. presidential transition;
- the integration of acquisitions;
- the availability of capital resources;
- production and reserve levels;
- drilling and completion risks;
- inflation rates and the impacts of associated monetary policy responses, including increased interest rates and resulting pressures on economic growth;
- economic and competitive conditions;
- the impacts of revising our drilling plan during the year transitioning to an increased or decreased rig count from time to time;
- severe weather conditions;
- epidemics or pandemics, including the effects of related public health concerns and the impact of continued actions taken by governmental authorities and other third parties in response to pandemics and their impact on commodity prices, supply and demand considerations, and storage capacity;
- the availability of goods and services and supply chain issues;
- legislative, regulatory or policy changes;
- regulatory and related policy actions intended by federal, state and/or local governments to reduce fossil fuel use and associated carbon emissions, to drive the substitution of renewable forms of energy for crude oil and natural gas, which may over time reduce demand for crude oil, NGL and natural gas, including as a result of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 ("IRA 2022") or otherwise;
- our ability to predict and manage the effects of actions of OPEC and agreements to set and maintain production levels, including as a result of recent production cuts by OPEC;
- cyber-attacks;
- occurrence of property acquisitions or divestitures;
- the securities or capital markets and our ability to access such markets on attractive terms or at all, and related risks such as general credit, liquidity, market and interest-rate risks; and
- other factors disclosed under "Part I, Items 1 and 2. Business and Properties," "Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors," "Part II, Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Part II, Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk," included in the Company's Annual Report on [Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023](#), filed with the SEC on March 6, 2024 ("Annual Report") and under "Part I, Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," "Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors" and "Part I, Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk," included in each of our Quarterly Report on [Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2024](#), filed with the SEC on May 8, 2024, Quarterly Report on [Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2024](#) filed with the SEC on August 5, 2024 and this Quarterly Report.

All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to the Company, or persons acting on its behalf, are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements. Except as required by law, the Company assumes no duty to update or revise its forward-looking statements based on changes in internal estimates or expectations or otherwise.

Additionally, we caution you that reserve engineering is a process of estimating underground accumulations of crude oil, NGL and natural gas that cannot be measured in an exact way. The accuracy of any reserve estimate depends on the quality of available data, the interpretation of such data and price and cost assumptions made by reserve engineers. In addition, the results of drilling, testing and production activities may justify revisions of estimates that were made previously. If significant, such revisions could change the schedule of any further production and development drilling. Accordingly, reserve estimates may differ significantly from the quantities of crude oil, NGL and natural gas that are ultimately recovered.

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

HighPeak Energy, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(in thousands, except share data)

	September 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
	(Unaudited)	
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 135,573	\$ 194,515
Accounts receivable	76,444	94,589
Derivative instruments	24,843	31,480
Inventory	7,966	7,254
Prepaid expenses	3,921	995
Total current assets	248,747	328,833
Crude oil and natural gas properties, using the successful efforts method of accounting:		
Proved properties	3,798,128	3,338,107
Unproved properties	75,088	72,715
Accumulated depletion, depreciation and amortization	(1,079,113)	(684,179)
Total crude oil and natural gas properties, net	2,794,103	2,726,643
Other property and equipment, net	3,483	3,572
Derivative instruments	—	16,059
Other noncurrent assets	15,133	5,684
Total assets	\$ 3,061,466	\$ 3,080,791
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000
Accounts payable – trade	52,557	63,583
Accrued capital expenditures	30,388	39,231
Revenues and royalties payable	28,532	29,724
Other accrued liabilities	25,499	19,613
Derivative instruments	1,937	13,054
Advances from joint interest owners	425	262
Operating leases	290	528
Accrued interest	—	1,398
Total current liabilities	259,628	287,393
Noncurrent liabilities:		
Long-term debt, net	953,825	1,030,299
Deferred income taxes	227,966	197,068
Asset retirement obligations	14,231	13,245
Operating leases	126	—
Derivative instruments	—	65
Commitments and contingencies (Note 10)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized, none issued and outstanding at September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023	—	—
Common stock, \$0.0001 par value, 600,000,000 shares authorized, 126,625,221 and 128,420,923 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively	13	13
Additional paid-in capital	1,173,231	1,189,424
Retained earnings	432,446	363,284
Total stockholders' equity	1,605,690	1,552,721
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 3,061,466	\$ 3,080,791

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

HighPeak Energy, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations
(in thousands, except per share data)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Operating revenues:				
Crude oil sales	\$ 270,636	\$ 338,372	\$ 827,595	\$ 790,458
NGL and natural gas sales	942	7,214	7,013	19,682
Total operating revenues	271,578	345,586	834,608	810,140
Operating costs and expenses:				
Crude oil and natural gas production	35,413	39,820	98,482	107,696
Production and ad valorem taxes	15,412	18,839	46,410	44,395
Exploration and abandonments	362	1,728	1,027	4,372
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	136,578	117,420	395,121	291,562
Accretion of discount	241	122	722	360
General and administrative	4,971	6,934	14,391	11,952
Stock-based compensation	3,753	14,057	11,326	22,095
Total operating costs and expenses	196,730	198,920	567,479	482,432
Other expense	1,404	540	3,405	8,042
Income from operations	73,444	146,126	263,724	319,666
Interest income	2,172	730	6,964	923
Interest expense	(42,579)	(37,022)	(129,204)	(103,278)
Gain (loss) on derivative instruments, net	32,334	(29,655)	(23,411)	(30,898)
Loss on extinguishment of debt	—	(27,300)	—	(27,300)
Income before income taxes	65,371	52,879	118,073	159,113
Provision for income taxes	15,438	14,100	31,985	38,251
Net income	\$ 49,933	\$ 38,779	\$ 86,088	\$ 120,862
Earnings per share:				
Basic net income	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.94
Diluted net income	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.90
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic	124,988	123,159	125,595	115,164
Diluted	129,094	127,006	129,581	120,531
Dividends declared per share	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.025	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.075

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

HighPeak Energy, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity
(in thousands)
(Unaudited)

Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024

	Shares Outstanding	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in- Capital	Retained Earnings	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balance, December 31, 2023	128,421	\$ 13	\$ 1,189,424	\$ 363,284	\$ 1,552,721
Dividends declared (\$0.04 per share)	—	—	—	(5,137)	(5,137)
Dividend equivalents declared on outstanding stock options (\$0.04 per share)	—	—	—	(532)	(532)
Repurchased shares under buyback program	(566)	—	(8,851)	—	(8,851)
Stock-based compensation costs:					
Compensation costs included in net income	—	—	3,798	—	3,798
Net income	—	—	—	6,438	6,438
Balance, March 31, 2024	127,855	\$ 13	\$ 1,184,371	\$ 364,053	\$ 1,548,437
Dividends declared (\$0.04 per share)	—	—	—	(5,114)	(5,114)
Dividend equivalents declared on outstanding stock options (\$0.04 per share)	—	—	—	(530)	(530)
Exercise of warrants	—	—	1	—	1
Repurchased shares under buyback program	(413)	—	(5,845)	—	(5,845)
Stock-based compensation costs:					
Restricted shares issued to outside directors	54	—	—	—	—
Compensation costs included in net income	—	—	3,775	—	3,775
Net income	—	—	—	29,717	29,717
Balance, June 30, 2024	127,496	\$ 13	\$ 1,182,302	\$ 388,126	\$ 1,570,441
Dividends declared (\$0.04 per share)	—	—	—	(5,082)	(5,082)
Dividend equivalents declared on outstanding stock options (\$0.04 per share)	—	—	—	(531)	(531)
Repurchased shares under buyback program	(871)	—	(12,824)	—	(12,824)
Stock-based compensation costs:					
Compensation costs included in net income	—	—	3,753	—	3,753
Net income	—	—	—	49,933	49,933
Balance, September 30, 2024	126,625	\$ 13	\$ 1,173,231	\$ 432,446	\$ 1,605,690

Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023

	Shares Outstanding	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in- Capital	Retained Earnings	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balance, December 31, 2022	113,165	\$ 11	\$ 1,008,896	\$ 160,740	\$ 1,169,647
Dividends declared (\$0.025 per share)	—	—	—	(2,829)	(2,829)
Dividend equivalents declared on outstanding stock options (\$0.025 per share)	—	—	—	(288)	(288)
Exercise of warrants	—	—	2	—	2
Stock-based compensation costs:					
Shares issued upon options being exercised	12	—	148	—	148
Compensation costs included in net income	—	—	4,054	—	4,054
Net income	—	—	—	50,257	50,257
Balance, March 31, 2023	113,177	11	1,013,100	207,880	1,220,991
Dividends declared (\$0.025 per share)	—	—	—	(2,830)	(2,830)
Dividend equivalents declared on outstanding stock options (\$0.025 per share)	—	—	—	(287)	(287)
Exercise of warrants	150	—	1,726	—	1,726
Stock-based compensation costs:					
Restricted shares issued to outside directors	59	—	—	—	—
Compensation costs included in net income	—	—	3,984	—	3,984
Net income	—	—	—	31,826	31,826
Balance, June 30, 2023	113,386	11	1,018,810	236,589	1,255,410
Dividends declared (\$0.025 per share)	—	—	—	(3,205)	(3,205)
Dividend equivalents declared on outstanding stock options (\$0.025 per share)	—	—	—	(336)	(336)
Stock issued in public offering	14,835	2	155,766	—	155,768
Stock issuance costs	—	—	(5,371)	—	(5,371)
Stock-based compensation costs:					
Compensation costs included in net income	—	—	14,057	—	14,057
Net income	—	—	—	38,779	38,779
Balance, September 30, 2023	128,221	\$ 13	\$ 1,183,262	\$ 271,827	\$ 1,455,102

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

HighPeak Energy, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(in thousands)
(Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Net income	\$ 86,088	\$ 120,862
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operations:		
Provision for deferred income taxes	30,898	38,251
Loss on extinguishment of debt	—	27,300
Loss on derivative instruments, net	23,411	30,898
Cash paid on settlement of derivative instruments	(11,897)	(21,032)
Amortization of debt issuance costs	6,199	9,352
Amortization of discounts on long-term debt	7,385	12,660
Stock-based compensation expense	11,326	22,095
Accretion expense	722	360
Depletion, depreciation and amortization expense	395,121	291,562
Exploration and abandonment expense	386	3,747
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	18,145	(29,385)
Prepaid expenses, inventory and other assets	(12,387)	(1,628)
Accounts payable, accrued liabilities and other current liabilities	(4,524)	16,700
Net cash provided by operating activities	550,873	521,742
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Additions to crude oil and natural gas properties	(452,148)	(840,663)
Changes in working capital associated with crude oil and natural gas property additions	(13,214)	(86,468)
Acquisitions of crude oil and natural gas properties	(10,367)	(9,602)
Proceeds from sales of properties	118	—
Deposit and other costs related to pending acquisitions	—	(409)
Other property additions	(216)	(103)
Net cash used in investing activities	(475,827)	(937,245)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Repayments under Term Loan Credit Agreement	(90,000)	—
Repurchased shares under buyback program	(27,247)	—
Dividends paid	(15,082)	(8,706)
Dividend equivalents paid	(1,602)	(903)
Debt issuance costs	(58)	(26,401)
Proceeds from exercises of warrants	1	1,728
Borrowings under Term Loan Credit Agreement	—	1,170,000
Repayments under Prior Credit Agreement	—	(525,000)
Repayments of 10.000% Senior Notes and 10.625% Senior Notes	—	(475,000)
Borrowings under Prior Credit Agreement	—	255,000
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	—	155,768
Stock offering costs	—	(5,371)
Premium on extinguishment of debt	—	(4,457)
Proceeds from exercises of stock options	—	148
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(133,988)	536,806
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(58,942)	121,303
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	194,515	30,504
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 135,573	\$ 151,807
Supplemental cash flow information:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 117,018	\$ 93,549
Cash paid for income taxes	—	—
Supplemental disclosure of non-cash transactions:		
Additions to asset retirement obligations	571	241

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

HIGHPEAK ENERGY, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

NOTE 1. Organization and Nature of Operations

HighPeak Energy, Inc. ("HighPeak Energy" or the "Company") is a Delaware corporation, formed in October 2019. See the Company's Annual Report on [Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023](#), filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on March 6, 2024, for further information regarding the formation of the Company. HighPeak Energy's common stock and warrants are listed and traded on the Nasdaq Global Market (the "Nasdaq") under the ticker symbols "HPK" and "HPKEW," respectively. The Company is an independent crude oil and natural gas exploration and production company that explores for, develops and produces crude oil, NGL and natural gas in the Permian Basin in West Texas, more specifically, the Midland Basin primarily in Howard and Borden Counties. Our acreage is composed of two core areas, Flat Top primarily in the northern portion of Howard County extending into southern Borden County, southwest Scurry County and northwest Mitchell County and Signal Peak in the southern portion of Howard County.

NOTE 2. Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Presentation. In the opinion of management, the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company as of September 30, 2024 and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 include all adjustments and accruals, consisting only of normal, recurring adjustments and accruals necessary for a fair presentation of the results for the interim periods in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States ("GAAP"). The operating results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 are not indicative of results for a full year.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been condensed or omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. These unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements should be read together with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Principles of consolidation. The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries since their acquisition or formation. All material intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

Use of estimates in the preparation of financial statements. Preparation of the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the condensed consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Depletion of crude oil and natural gas properties is determined using estimates of proved crude oil, NGL and natural gas reserves and evaluations for impairment of proved and unproved crude oil and natural gas properties, in part, is determined using estimates of proved and risk adjusted probable and possible crude oil, NGL and natural gas reserves. There are numerous uncertainties inherent in the estimation of quantities of proved, probable and possible reserves and in the projection of future rates of production and the timing of development expenditures. Similarly, if needed, evaluations for impairment of proved crude oil and natural gas properties are subject to numerous uncertainties including, among others, estimates of future recoverable reserves, commodity price outlooks and future undiscounted and discounted net cash flows. In addition, evaluations for impairment of unproved crude oil and natural gas properties on a project-by-project basis are also subject to numerous uncertainties including, among others, estimates of future recoverable reserves, results of exploration activities, commodity price outlooks, planned future sales or expirations of all or a portion of such projects. Other items subject to such estimates and assumptions include, but are not limited to, the carrying value of crude oil and natural gas properties, asset retirement obligations, equity-based compensation, fair value of derivatives, expected credit losses and estimates of income taxes. Actual results could differ from the estimates and assumptions utilized.

Cash and cash equivalents. The Company's cash and cash equivalents include depository accounts held by banks with original issuance maturities of 90 days or less. The Company's cash and cash equivalents are generally held in financial institutions in amounts that may exceed the insurance limits of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. However, management believes that the Company's counterparty risks are minimal based on the reputation and history of the institutions selected.

Accounts receivable. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the Company's accounts receivables primarily consist of amounts due from the sale of crude oil, NGL and natural gas of \$67.5 million and \$82.5 million, respectively, and are based on estimates of sales volumes and realized prices the Company anticipates it will receive, joint interest receivables of \$3.4 million and \$4.4 million, respectively, receivables related to settlements of derivative contracts of \$2.9 million and \$4.5 million, respectively, and current U.S. federal income tax receivables of \$ 2.6 million and \$3.2 million, respectively. The Company's share of crude oil, NGL and natural gas production is sold to various purchasers who must be prequalified under the Company's credit risk policies and procedures. The Company's credit risk related to collecting accounts receivables is mitigated by using credit and other financial criteria to evaluate the credit standing of the entity obligated to make payment on the accounts receivable, and where appropriate, the Company obtains assurances of payment, such as a guarantee by the parent company of the counterparty or other credit support.

Accounts receivable are stated at amounts due from purchasers or joint interest owners, net of an allowance for expected losses as estimated by the Company when collection is doubtful. For receivables from joint interest owners, the Company typically has the ability to withhold future revenue disbursements to recover any non-payment of joint interest billings. Accounts receivable from purchasers or joint interest owners outstanding longer than the contractual payment terms are considered past due. The Company determines its allowance for each type of receivable by considering a number of factors, including the length of time accounts receivable are past due, the Company's previous loss history, the debtor's current ability to pay its obligation to the Company, the condition of the general economy and the industry as a whole. The Company writes off specific accounts receivable when they become uncollectible, and payments subsequently received on such receivables are credited to the allowance for expected losses. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the Company had no allowance for credit losses related to accounts receivable.

Concentration of credit risk. The Company is subject to credit risk resulting from the concentration of its crude oil and natural gas receivables with significant purchasers. For the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and the year ended December 31, 2023, sales to the Company's largest purchaser accounted for approximately 76% and 82%, respectively, and sales to the Company's second largest purchaser accounted for approximately 19% and 14%, respectively, of the Company's total crude oil, NGL and natural gas sales revenues. The Company generally does not require collateral and does not believe the loss of these particular purchasers would materially impact its operating results, as crude oil and natural gas are fungible products with well-established markets and numerous purchasers in various regions.

Inventory. Inventory is comprised primarily of crude oil and natural gas drilling and completion or repair items such as pumps, tubing, casing, vessels, operating supplies and ordinary maintenance materials and parts. The materials and supplies inventory is primarily acquired for use in future drilling and completion or repair operations and is carried at the lower of cost or net realizable value, on a weighted average cost basis. Valuation allowances for materials and supplies inventories are recorded as reductions to the carrying values of the materials and supplies inventories in the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheet and as charges to other expense in the condensed consolidated statements of operations. The Company's materials and supplies inventory as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 is \$8.0 million and \$7.3 million, respectively, and the Company has not recognized any valuation allowance to date.

Prepaid expenses. Prepaid expenses are comprised primarily of fees related to strategic alternatives that will be deducted from eventual commissions on a future transaction, caliche that will be used on future locations and roads in our development areas, and prepaid agency fees and software maintenance fees that will be amortized over the life of the contracts. Prepaid expenses as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 are \$3.9 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

Crude oil and natural gas properties. The Company utilizes the successful efforts method of accounting for its crude oil and natural gas properties. Under this method, all costs associated with productive and nonproductive development wells are capitalized while nonproductive exploration costs and geological and geophysical expenditures are expensed.

The Company does not carry the costs of drilling an exploratory well as an asset in its condensed consolidated balance sheet following the completion of drilling unless both of the following conditions are met: (i) the well has found a sufficient quantity of reserves to justify its completion as a producing well and (ii) the Company is making sufficient progress assessing the reserves and the economic and operating viability of the project.

Due to the capital-intensive nature and the geographical location of certain projects, it may take an extended period of time to evaluate the future potential of an exploration project and the economics associated with making a determination on its commercial viability. In these instances, the project's feasibility is not contingent upon price improvements or advances in technology, but rather the Company's ongoing efforts and expenditures related to accurately predict the hydrocarbon recoverability based on well information, gaining access to other companies' production data in the area, transportation or processing facilities and/or getting partner approval to drill additional appraisal wells. These activities are ongoing and are being pursued constantly. Consequently, the Company's assessment of suspended exploratory well costs is continuous until a decision can be made that the project has found sufficient proved reserves to sanction the project or is noncommercial and is charged to exploration and abandonment expense. See Note 6 for additional information.

The capitalized costs of proved properties are depleted using the unit-of-production method based on proved reserves for leasehold costs and proved developed reserves for drilling, completion and other crude oil and natural gas property costs. Unproved leasehold costs are excluded from depletion until proved reserves are established or, if unsuccessful, impairment is determined.

Proceeds from the sales of individual properties are credited to proved or unproved crude oil and natural gas properties, as the case may be, if doing so does not materially impact the depletion rate of an amortization base. Generally, no gain or loss is recorded until an entire amortization base is sold. However, gain or loss is recorded from the sale of less than an entire amortization base if the disposition is significant enough to materially impact the depletion rate of the remaining properties in the amortization base.

The Company performs assessments of its long-lived assets to be held and used, including proved crude oil and natural gas properties accounted for under the successful efforts method of accounting, whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying value of those assets may not be recoverable. If there is an indication the carrying value of the assets may not be recovered, an impairment loss is recognized if the sum of the expected future cash flows is less than the carrying amount of the assets. In these circumstances, the Company recognizes an impairment charge for the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the estimated fair value of the assets.

Unproved crude oil and natural gas properties are periodically assessed for impairment on a project-by-project basis. These impairment assessments are affected by the estimates of future recoverable reserves, results of exploration activities, commodity price outlooks, planned future sales or expirations of all or a portion of such projects. If the estimated future net cash flows attributable to such projects are not expected to be sufficient to fully recover the costs invested in each project, the Company will recognize an impairment charge at that time.

Other property and equipment, net. Other property and equipment is recorded at cost. The carrying values of other property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$1.0 million and \$904,000 as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively, are as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
Land	\$ 2,091	\$ 2,139
Transportation equipment	673	689
Buildings	520	530
Leasehold improvements	197	209
Field equipment	2	4
Furniture and fixtures	—	1
Total other property and equipment, net	\$ 3,483	\$ 3,572

Other property and equipment are depreciated over their estimated useful life on a straight-line basis. Land is not depreciated. Transportation equipment is generally depreciated over five years, buildings are generally depreciated over forty years, field equipment is generally depreciated over seven years and furniture and fixtures is generally depreciated over five years. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the lesser of their estimated useful lives or the underlying terms of the associated leases.

The Company reviews its long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recorded is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its estimated fair value. The estimated fair value is determined using either a discounted future cash flow model or another appropriate fair value method.

Aid-in-construction assets. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the Company had aid-in-construction assets totaling \$ 14.7 million and \$5.2 million, respectively, included in other noncurrent assets. The Company has received and will continue to receive payments based on gross system throughput, including any third-party natural gas that is potentially tied into the Flat Top gathering system in the future. The contract calls for future aid-in-construction fundings if expansions of the system are necessary as determined in the sole discretion of the Company.

Leases. The Company enters into leases for drilling rigs, storage tanks, equipment and buildings and recognizes lease expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Lease right-of-use assets and liabilities are initially recorded on the lease commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. As most of the Company's lease contracts do not provide an implicit discount rate, the Company uses its incremental borrowing rate, which is determined based on information available at the commencement date of a lease. Leases may include renewal, purchase or termination options that can extend or shorten the term of a lease. The exercise of those options is at the Company's sole discretion and is evaluated at inception and throughout the contract to determine if a modification of the lease term is required. Leases with an initial term of 12 months or less are generally not recorded as lease right-of-use assets and liabilities. See Note 10 for additional information.

Current liabilities. Current liabilities as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 totaled approximately \$ 259.6 million and \$287.4 million, respectively, including current maturities of long-term debt, accrued capital expenditures, trade accounts payable, revenues and royalties payable, derivative liabilities and accruals for operating and general and administrative expenses, interest expense, operating leases, dividends and dividend equivalents and other miscellaneous items.

Debt issuance costs and original issue discount. The Company has paid a total of \$ 25.1 million in debt issuance costs, \$58,000 and \$25.0 million of which were incurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and the year ended December 31, 2023, respectively, primarily related to the completion of the Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement. In addition, the Company incurred \$ 3.3 million during the year ended December 31, 2023 primarily related to amendments to the Prior Credit Agreement. Amortization based on the straight-line method over the terms of the Term Loan Credit Agreement, Senior Credit Facility Agreement, Prior Credit Agreement, 10.000% Senior Notes and 10.625% Senior Notes which approximates the effective interest method was \$6.2 million and \$9.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively. In addition, the Company realized a total of \$64.8 million in original issue discounts on the issuance of its Term Loan Credit Agreement, 10.000% Senior Notes and 10.625% Senior Notes that is being amortized over the life of the agreements which approximates the effective interest method and was \$7.4 million and \$12.7 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively. All unamortized debt issuance costs and discounts as of the termination of the Prior Credit Agreement and redemption of the 10.000% Senior Notes and 10.625% Senior Notes during September 2023 were charged to expense and included in loss on extinguishment of debt in the year ended December 31, 2023. See Note 7 for more information. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the remaining net debt issuance costs and discounts related to the Term Loan Credit Agreement are netted against the outstanding long-term debt on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets.

Asset retirement obligations. The Company records a liability for the fair value of an asset retirement obligation in the period in which the associated asset is acquired or placed into service if a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made. Asset retirement obligations are generally capitalized as part of the carrying value of the long-lived asset to which it relates. Conditional asset retirement obligations meet the definition of liabilities and are recorded when incurred and when fair value can be reasonably estimated. See Note 8 for additional information.

Revenue recognition. The Company follows FASB ASC 606, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers," ("ASC 606") whereby the Company recognizes revenues from the sales of crude oil, NGL and natural gas to its purchasers and presents them disaggregated on the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations.

The Company enters into contracts with purchasers to sell its crude oil, NGL and natural gas production. Revenue on these contracts is recognized in accordance with the five-step revenue recognition model prescribed in ASC 606. Specifically, revenue is recognized when the Company's performance obligations under these contracts are satisfied, which generally occurs with the transfer of control of the crude oil and natural gas to the purchaser. Control is generally considered transferred when the following criteria are met: (i) transfer of physical custody, (ii) transfer of title, (iii) transfer of risk of loss and (iv) relinquishment of any repurchase rights or other similar rights. Given the nature of the products sold, revenue is recognized at a point in time based on the amount of consideration the Company expects to receive in accordance with the price specified in the contract. Consideration under the crude oil and natural gas marketing contracts is typically received from the purchaser one to two months after the date of sale. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the Company had receivables related to contracts with purchasers of approximately \$67.5 million and \$82.5 million, respectively.

Crude Oil Contracts. The Company's crude oil marketing contracts transfer physical custody and title at or near the wellhead, which is generally when control of the crude oil has been transferred to the purchaser. The crude oil produced is sold under contracts using market-based pricing which is then adjusted for the differentials based upon delivery location and crude oil quality. Since the differentials are incurred after the transfer of control of the crude oil, the differentials are included in crude oil sales on the condensed consolidated statements of operations as they represent part of the transaction price of the contract.

Natural Gas Contracts. The majority of the Company's natural gas is sold at the lease location, which is generally when control of the natural gas has been transferred to the purchaser. The natural gas is sold under (i) percentage of proceeds processing contracts or (ii) a hybrid of percentage of proceeds and fee-based contracts. Under the majority of the Company's contracts, the purchaser gathers the natural gas in the field where it is produced and transports it to natural gas processing plants where NGL products are extracted. The NGL products and remaining residue natural gas are then sold by the purchaser. Under percentage of proceeds and hybrid percentage of proceeds and fee-based contracts, the Company receives a percentage of the value for the extracted liquids and the residue natural gas. Since control of the natural gas transfers upstream of the transportation and processing activities, revenue is recognized as the net amount received from the purchaser.

The Company does not disclose the value of unsatisfied performance obligations under its contracts with customers as it applies the practical exemption in accordance with ASC 606. The exemption, as described in ASC 606-10-50-14(a), applies to variable consideration that is recognized as control of the product is transferred to the customer. Since each unit of product represents a separate performance obligation, future volumes are wholly unsatisfied and disclosure of the transaction price allocated to remaining performance obligations is not required.

Derivatives. All the Company's derivatives are accounted for as non-hedge derivatives and are recorded at estimated fair value in the condensed consolidated balance sheets. All changes in the fair values of its derivative contracts are recorded as gains or losses in the earnings of the periods in which they occur. The Company enters into derivatives under master netting arrangements, which, in an event of default, allows the Company to offset payables to and receivables from the defaulting counterparty. The Company classifies the fair value amounts of derivative assets and liabilities executed under master netting arrangements as net current or noncurrent derivative assets or net current or noncurrent derivative liabilities, whichever the case may be, by commodity and counterparty.

The Company's credit risk related to derivatives is a counterparties' failure to perform under derivative contracts owed to the Company. The Company uses credit and other financial criteria to evaluate the credit standing of, and to select, counterparties to its derivative instruments. Although the Company does not obtain collateral or otherwise secure the fair value of its derivative instruments, associated credit risk is mitigated by the Company's credit risk policies and procedures.

The Company has entered into International Swap Dealers Association Master Agreements ("ISDA Agreements") with each of its derivative counterparties. The terms of the ISDA Agreements provide the Company and the counterparties with rights of set off upon the occurrence of defined acts of default by either the Company or a counterparty to a derivative, whereby the party not in default may set off all derivative liabilities owed to the defaulting party against all derivative asset receivables from the defaulting party. See Note 5 for additional information.

Income taxes. The provision for income taxes is determined using the asset and liability approach of accounting for income taxes. Under this approach, deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the carrying amounts for income tax purposes and net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. The amount of deferred taxes on these temporary differences is determined using the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realized or the liability is settled, as applicable, based on tax rates and laws in the respective tax jurisdiction enacted as of the balance sheet date.

The Company reviews its deferred tax assets for recoverability and establishes a valuation allowance based on projected future taxable income, applicable tax strategies and the expected timing of the reversals of existing temporary differences. A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not (likelihood of greater than 50 percent) that some portion or all the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The Company has not established a valuation allowance as of September 30, 2024 or December 31, 2023.

Tax benefits from an uncertain tax positions are recognized only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained upon examination by the taxing authorities, based upon the technical merits of the position. If all or a portion of the unrecognized tax benefit is sustained upon examination by the taxing authorities, the tax benefit will be recognized as a reduction to the Company's deferred tax liability and will affect the Company's effective tax rate in the period it is recognized. See Note 13 for additional information.

Tax-related interest charges are recorded as interest expense and any tax-related penalties as other expense in the condensed consolidated statements of operations of which there have been none to date.

The Company is also subject to Texas Margin Tax. The Company realized \$ 519,000 and zero in current Texas Margin Tax during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively, in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

Stock-based compensation. Stock-based compensation expense for stock option awards is measured at the grant date or modification date, as applicable, using the fair value of the award, and is recorded, net of forfeitures, on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the respective award. The fair value of stock option awards is determined on the grant date or modification date, as applicable, using a Black-Scholes option valuation model with the following inputs; (i) the grant date's closing stock price, (ii) the exercise price of the stock options, (iii) the expected term of the stock option, (iv) the estimated risk-free adjusted interest rate for the duration of the option's expected term, (v) the expected annual dividend yield on the underlying stock and (vi) the expected volatility over the option's expected term.

Stock-based compensation for restricted stock awarded to outside directors, employee members of the Board and certain other employees is measured at the grant date using the fair value of the award and is recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the respective award.

Segments. Based on the Company's organizational structure, the Company has one operating segment, which is crude oil and natural gas development, exploration and production. In addition, the Company has a single, company-wide management team that allocates capital resources to maximize profitability and measures financial performance as a single enterprise.

Recently adopted accounting pronouncements. In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, "Financial Instruments – Credit Losses". This update affects entities holding financial assets and net investment in leases that are not accounted for at fair value through net income. The amendments affect loans, debt securities, trade receivables, net investment in leases, off-balance sheet credit exposures, reinsurance receivables, and any other financial assets not excluded from the scope that have the contractual right to receive cash. The Company adopted this update effective January 1, 2023. The adoption of this update did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or liquidity since it does not have a history of credit losses.

New accounting pronouncements not yet adopted. In December 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-09, "Income Taxes (Topic 740): Improvements to Income Tax Disclosures," which enhances the transparency and decision usefulness of income tax disclosures. The amendments address more transparency about income tax information through improvements to income tax disclosures primarily related to the rate reconciliation and income taxes paid information. The ASU also includes certain other amendments to improve the effectiveness of income tax disclosures. The amendments in this ASU are effective for public business entities for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2024 on a prospective basis. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this standard on its disclosures.

In November 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-07, "Segment Reporting (Topic 280): Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures." This ASU updates reportable segment disclosure requirements, primarily through enhanced disclosures about significant segment expenses and information used to assess segment performance. The amendments in this ASU are effective for public entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023 and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this standard on its disclosures.

In March 2024, the SEC adopted new climate rules that require a wide range of climate-related disclosures, including material climate-related risks, information on climate-related targets or goals that are material to the registrant's business, results of operations or financial condition, Scope 1 and Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions on a phased-in basis by large accelerated filers and accelerated filers when those emissions are material and the filing of an attestation report covering the same, and disclosure of the financial statement effects of severe weather events and other natural conditions including costs and losses. Compliance dates under the final rule are phased in by registrant category. Multiple lawsuits have been filed challenging the SEC's new climate rules, which have been consolidated and will be heard in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. In April 2024, the SEC issued an order staying the final rules until judicial review is complete. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the final rules on its disclosures.

The Company considers the applicability and the impact of all ASUs. ASUs were assessed and determined to be either not applicable, the effects of adoption are not expected to be material or are clarifications of ASUs previously disclosed.

NOTE 3. Acquisitions

During the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, the Company incurred a total of \$ 10.4 million and \$9.6 million, respectively, in acquisition costs primarily to acquire various undeveloped crude oil and natural gas leases largely contiguous to its Flat Top and Signal Peak operating areas.

NOTE 4. Fair Value Measurements

The Company determines fair value based on the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value measurements are based upon inputs that market participants use in pricing an asset or liability, which are characterized according to a hierarchy that prioritizes those inputs based on the degree to which they are observable. Observable inputs represent market data obtained from independent sources, whereas unobservable inputs reflect a company's own market assumptions, which are used if observable inputs are not reasonably available without undue cost and effort. The fair value input hierarchy level to which an asset or liability measurement in its entirety falls is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the measurement in its entirety.

The three input levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- Level 1 – quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.
- Level 2 – quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability (e.g., interest rates) and inputs derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.
- Level 3 – unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, typically reflecting management's estimate of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. The fair values are therefore, determined using model-based techniques, including discounted cash flow models.

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 are as follows (in thousands):

As of September 30, 2024				
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total
Assets:				
Commodity price derivatives – current	\$ —	\$ 24,843	\$ —	\$ 24,843
Liabilities:				
Commodity price derivatives – current	—	1,937	—	1,937
Total recurring fair value measurements, net	\$ —	\$ 22,906	\$ —	\$ 22,906

As of December 31, 2023

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total
Assets:				
Commodity price derivatives – current	\$ —	\$ 31,480	\$ —	\$ 31,480
Commodity price derivatives – noncurrent	—	16,059	—	16,059
Total assets	—	47,539	—	47,539
Liabilities:				
Commodity price derivatives – current	—	13,054	—	13,054
Commodity price derivatives – noncurrent	—	65	—	65
Total liabilities	—	13,119	—	13,119
Total recurring fair value measurements, net	\$ —	\$ 34,420	\$ —	\$ 34,420

Commodity price derivatives. The Company's commodity price derivatives are currently made up of crude oil swap contracts, enhanced collars, costless collars, deferred premium put options and basis swaps. The Company measures derivatives using an industry-standard pricing model that is provided by the counterparties. The inputs utilized in the third-party discounted cash flow and option-pricing models for valuing commodity price derivatives include forward prices for crude oil, contracted volumes, volatility factors and time to maturity, which are considered Level 2 inputs.

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis. Certain assets and liabilities are measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis. These assets and liabilities are not measured at fair value on an ongoing basis but are subject to fair value adjustments in certain circumstances. Specifically, (i) stock-based compensation is measured at fair value on the date of grant based on Level 1 inputs for restricted stock awards or Level 2 inputs for stock option awards based upon market data, (ii) the estimates and fair value measurements used for the evaluation of proved property for potential impairment using Level 3 inputs based upon market conditions in the area and (iii) asset retirement obligations are measured at estimated fair value on the date the liabilities are incurred using Level 3 inputs based on expected future costs to retire the assets, market conditions and estimated lives of the assets. The Company assesses the recoverability of the carrying amount of certain assets and liabilities whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of an asset or liability may not be recoverable. These assets and liabilities can include inventories, proved and unproved crude oil and natural gas properties and other long-lived assets that are written down to fair value when they are impaired or held for sale. The Company did not record any impairments to proved or unproved crude oil and natural gas properties for the periods presented in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

Financial instruments not carried at fair value. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the Company has financial instruments consisting primarily of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, long-term debt (specifically the Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement), and other current assets and liabilities that approximate fair value due to the nature of the instrument and their relatively short maturities.

NOTE 5. Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company primarily utilizes commodity swap contracts, deferred premium put options and enhanced collars to (i) reduce the effect of price volatility on the commodities the Company produces and sells, (ii) support the Company's capital budgeting and expenditure plans, (iii) protect the Company's commitments under the Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement and (iv) support the payment of contractual obligations.

The following table summarizes the effect of derivative instruments on the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Noncash derivative gain (loss), net	\$ 33,775	\$ (15,883)	\$ (11,514)	\$ (9,866)
Cash payments on settled derivatives, net	(1,441)	(13,772)	(11,897)	(21,032)
Derivative gain (loss), net	<u>\$ 32,334</u>	<u>\$ (29,655)</u>	<u>\$ (23,411)</u>	<u>\$ (30,898)</u>

Crude oil production derivatives. The Company sells its crude oil production at the lease and the sales contracts governing such crude oil production are tied directly to, or are correlated with, NYMEX WTI Cushing and Argus WTI Midland crude oil prices. As such, the Company primarily uses NYMEX WTI Cushing derivative contracts as well as Argus WTI Midland basis swaps to manage future crude oil price volatility. The Argus WTI Midland basis differential represents the amount of premium to NYMEX WTI Cushing.

The Company's outstanding NYMEX WTI Cushing and Argus WTI Midland crude oil derivative instruments as of September 30, 2024 and the weighted average crude oil prices and premiums payable per barrel for those contracts are as follows:

					Enhanced Collars & Deferred			
					Swaps	Premium Puts		
Settlement Month	Year	Type of Contract	Bbls Per Day	Index	Price per Bbl	Floor or Strike Price per Bbl	Ceiling Price per Bbl	Deferred Premium Payable per Bbl
Crude Oil:								
Oct – Dec	2024	Swap	8,500	WTI Cushing	\$ 74.12	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Oct – Dec	2024	Basis Swap	25,000	Argus WTI Midland	\$ 1.12	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Oct – Dec	2024	Collar	13,667	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 64.41	\$ 87.47	\$ 1.43
Oct – Dec	2024	Put	9,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.78	\$ —	\$ 5.00
Jan – Mar	2025	Swap	7,467	WTI Cushing	\$ 74.69	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Jan – Mar	2025	Collar	11,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 63.64	\$ 86.66	\$ 1.54
Jan – Mar	2025	Put	9,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.78	\$ —	\$ 5.00
Apr – Jun	2025	Swap	5,500	WTI Cushing	\$ 76.37	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Apr – Jun	2025	Collar	7,989	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 64.38	\$ 88.55	\$ 2.00
Apr – Jun	2025	Put	9,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.78	\$ —	\$ 5.00
Jul – Sep	2025	Swap	3,000	WTI Cushing	\$ 75.85	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Jul – Sep	2025	Collar	7,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.00	\$ 90.08	\$ 2.28
Jul – Sep	2025	Put	9,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.78	\$ —	\$ 5.00

The Company uses credit and other financial criteria to evaluate the credit standings of, and to select, counterparties to its derivative financial instruments. Although the Company does not obtain collateral or otherwise secure the fair value of its derivative financial instruments, associated credit risk is mitigated by the Company's credit risk policies and procedures.

Net derivative assets associated with the Company's open commodity derivative instruments by counterparty are as follows (in thousands):

	As of September 30, 2024
Mercuria Energy Trading SA	\$ 11,792
Fifth Third Bank, National Association	7,178
Wells Fargo Bank, National Association	3,609
Macquarie Bank Limited	327
	<u>\$ 22,906</u>

NOTE 6. Exploratory/Extension Well Costs

The Company capitalizes exploratory/extension wells and project costs until a determination is made that the well or project has either found proved reserves, is impaired or is sold. The Company's capitalized exploratory/extension well and project costs are included in proved properties in the condensed consolidated balance sheets. If the exploratory/extension well or project is determined to be impaired, the impaired costs are charged to exploration and abandonments expense.

The changes in capitalized exploratory/extension well costs are as follows (in thousands):

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024
Beginning capitalized exploratory/extension well costs	\$ 40,888
Additions to exploratory/extension well costs	103,657
Reclassification to proved properties	(126,227)
Exploratory/extension well costs charged to exploration and abandonment expense	(229)
Ending capitalized exploratory/extension well costs	<u>\$ 18,089</u>

All capitalized exploratory/extension well costs have been capitalized for less than one year based on the date of drilling.

NOTE 7. Long-Term Debt

The components of long-term debt, including the effects of debt issuance costs, are as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
Term Loan Credit Agreement due 2026	\$ 1,110,000	\$ 1,200,000
Senior Credit Facility Agreement due 2026	—	—
Discounts, net (a)	(19,676)	(27,062)
Debt issuance costs, net (b)	(16,499)	(22,639)
Total debt	1,073,825	1,150,299
Less current maturities of long-term debt	(120,000)	(120,000)
Long-term debt, net	<u>\$ 953,825</u>	<u>\$ 1,030,299</u>

(a) Discounts as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 consisted of \$ 30.0 million in discounts less accumulated amortization of \$ 10.3 million and \$458,000, respectively.

(b) Debt issuance costs as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 consisted of \$ 25.1 million and \$23.0 million, respectively, in costs less accumulated amortization of \$8.6 million and \$351,000, respectively.

Term Loan Credit Agreement. On September 12, 2023, the Company entered into a Term Loan Credit Agreement with Texas Capital Bank ("Texas Capital") as the administrative agent and Chambers Energy Management, LP ("Chambers") as collateral agent and lenders from time-to-time party thereto to establish a term loan ("Term Loan Credit Agreement") totaling \$1.2 billion in borrowings, less a 2.5% original issue discount of \$30.0 million at closing and customary debt issuance costs which totaled approximately \$24.0 million. The Term Loan Credit Agreement matures on September 30, 2026. Loans under the Term Loan Credit Agreement bear interest at a rate per annum equal to the Adjusted Term SOFR (as defined in the Term Loan Credit Agreement) plus an applicable margin of 7.50%. To the extent that a payment default exists and is continuing, at the election of the Required Lenders (as defined in the Term Loan Credit Agreement) under the Term Loan Credit Agreement, all amounts outstanding under the Term Loan Credit Agreement will bear interest at 2.00% per annum above the rate and margin otherwise applicable thereto. The Company is able to repay any amounts borrowed prior to the maturity date, subject to a concurrent payment of (i) the Make-Whole Amount (as defined in the Term Loan Credit Agreement) for any optional prepayment prior to the date 18 months after the closing date, (ii) 1.00% of the principal amount being repaid for any optional prepayment on or after the date 18 months after the closing date but prior to the date 24 months after the closing date and (iii) without any premium for any optional prepayment on or after the date that is 24 months after the closing date. The Term Loan Credit Agreement is guaranteed by the Company and certain of its subsidiaries and is secured by a first lien security interest in substantially all assets of the Company and certain of its subsidiaries.

The Term Loan Credit Agreement also contains certain financial covenants, including (i) an asset coverage ratio that may not be less than 1.50 to 1.00 and (ii) a total net leverage ratio that may not exceed 2.00 to 1.00. Additionally, the Term Loan Credit Agreement contains additional restrictive covenants that limit the ability of the Company and its restricted subsidiaries to, among other things, incur additional indebtedness (with such exceptions including, among other things, a super priority revolving credit facility limited to \$100 million), incur additional liens, make investments and loans, enter into mergers and acquisitions, materially increase dividends and other payments, enter into certain hedging transactions, sell assets, engage in transactions with affiliates and make certain capital expenditures based on the Company's total net leverage ratio.

The Term Loan Credit Agreement contains customary mandatory prepayments, including quarterly installments of \$ 30.0 million in aggregate principal amount which began March 31, 2024 (\$90.0 million paid to date through September 30, 2024), the prepayment of gross proceeds from an incurred indebtedness other than Permitted Indebtedness (as defined in the Term Loan Credit Agreement), the prepayment of net cash proceeds for asset sales and hedge terminations in excess of \$20.0 million within one calendar year, and prepayments of Excess Cash Flow (as defined in the Term Loan Credit Agreement) which began with the fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2024 (none paid to date as of September 30, 2024). In addition, the Term Loan Credit Agreement is subject to customary events of default, including a change in control. If an event of default occurs and is continuing, the collateral agent or the majority lenders may accelerate any amounts outstanding and terminate lender commitments.

Collateral Agency Agreement. On September 12, 2023, the Company entered into a collateral agency agreement (the "Collateral Agency Agreement") among the Company, Texas Capital, as collateral agent, Chambers, as term representative, and Mercuria Energy Trading SA as first-out representative prior to giving effect to that certain Collateral Agency Joinder – Additional First-Out Debt, dated as of November 1, 2023 and Fifth Third Bank, National Association as first-out representative after giving effect to that certain Collateral Agency Joinder – Additional First-Out Debt, dated as of November 1, 2023.

The Collateral Agency Agreement provides for the appointment of Texas Capital, as collateral agent, for the present and future holders of the first lien obligations (including the obligations of the Company and certain of its subsidiaries under the Term Loan Credit Agreement) to receive, hold, administer and distribute the collateral that is at any time delivered to Texas Capital or the subject of the Security Documents (as defined in the Collateral Agency Agreement) and to enforce the Security Documents and all interests, rights, powers and remedies of Texas Capital with respect thereto or thereunder and the proceeds thereof.

Senior Credit Facility Agreement. On November 1, 2023, the Company entered into a credit agreement with Fifth Third Bank, National Association ("Fifth Third") as the administrative agent and as the collateral agent and a number of banks included in the syndicate to establish a senior revolving credit facility ("Senior Credit Facility Agreement") that matures on September 30, 2026. The Senior Credit Facility Agreement has aggregate maximum commitments of \$100.0 million and effective March 29, 2024 pursuant to the First Amendment, current commitments of \$ 100.0 million and customary debt issuance costs which totaled approximately \$1.1 million. Loans under the Senior Credit Facility Agreement bear interest at either the Adjusted Term SOFR (as defined in the Senior Credit Facility Agreement) or the Base Rate (as defined in the Senior Credit Facility Agreement) at the Company's option, plus an applicable margin ranging (i) for Adjusted Term SOFR loans, from 4.00% to 5.00%, and (ii) for Base Rate loans, from 3.00% to 4.00%, in each case calculated based on the ratio at such time of the outstanding principal loan amounts to the aggregate amount of lenders' commitments. To the extent that a payment default exists and is continuing, at the election of the Required Lenders (as defined in the Senior Credit Facility Agreement) under the Senior Credit Facility Agreement, all amounts outstanding under the Senior Credit Facility Agreement will bear interest at 2.00% per annum above the rate and margin otherwise applicable thereto. The Company is able to repay any amounts borrowed prior to the maturity date without premium or penalty. The Senior Credit Facility Agreement is guaranteed by the Company and certain of its subsidiaries and is secured by a first lien security interest in substantially all assets of the Company and certain of its subsidiaries.

The Term Loan Credit Agreement and the Senior Credit Facility Agreement have hedging requirements to which the Company adheres.

Prior Credit Agreement. In December 2020, the Company entered into a Credit Agreement with Fifth Third as the administrative agent and sole lender to establish a revolving credit facility (the "Prior Credit Agreement") that was set to mature on June 17, 2024. In March 2023, the Company entered into the Eighth Amendment to, among other things, (a) increase the borrowing base to \$700.0 million, (b) add an aggregate elected commitments concept at an initial amount of \$575.0 million, (c) provide that the applicable margin shall be determined in reference to such aggregate elected commitments (as opposed to being determined in reference to the borrowing base before giving effect to the Eighth Amendment), (d) modify the permitted dividends and distributions conditions such that minimum availability under the credit facility must be 25% of such aggregate elected commitments (as opposed to the borrowing base before giving effect to the Eighth Amendment), (e) permit quarterly dividends and distributions in an amount not to exceed \$4.0 million provided that there is no default and that after giving effect thereto and any concurrent borrowing, the Company is in pro forma compliance with its financial covenants, (f) require the Company, on or before June 30, 2023, to redeem or refinance the 10.000% Senior Notes, allocate a portion of its cash flow that will retire the 10.000% Senior Notes on or before November 30, 2023 or amend the terms of the 10.000% Senior Notes to extend the scheduled repayment thereof to no earlier than February 15, 2025, (g) permit the redemption of Specified Additional Debt (defined in the Prior Credit Agreement to mean any unsecured senior, senior subordinated or subordinated Debt of the Borrower incurred after the Effective Date and any refinancing of such Debt, including without limitation, the 10.000% Senior Notes; provided that any such Debt may be refinanced only to the extent that the aggregate principal amount of such refinanced Debt does not result in an increase in the principal amount thereof plus amounts to fund any original issue discount or upfront fees relating thereto plus amounts to fund accrued interest, fees, expenses and premiums, with all Capitalized terms defined in such Prior Credit Agreement) with the proceeds of Loans if pre-approved by all Lenders provided that there is no default and that after giving effect thereto, the Company is in pro forma compliance with its financial covenants and (h) add Texas Capital Bank as a Lender.

In July 2023, the Company entered into the Ninth Amendment to, among other things, provide for (i) a waiver of the minimum current ratio covenant for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2023 under the Prior Credit Agreement, (ii) a waiver of the failure to subject one or more certain accounts to an Account Control Agreement within the period provided in the Prior Credit Agreement, (iii) a postponement of the April 2023 borrowing base redetermination until September 2023, (iv) a postponement of the date on which the Company was previously obligated thereunder to either extend the maturity of the 10.000% Senior Notes due February 2024, redeem or refinance the 10.000% Senior Notes or allocate a portion of the Company's cash flow satisfactory to the Administrative Agent and the Majority Lenders that will retire the 10.000% Senior Notes on or before November 30, 2023 to September 1, 2023 or such later date as agreed to in writing by the Majority Lenders in their reasonable discretion, (v) certain pricing increases and additional minimum hedging requirements, (vi) an additional requirement to deliver a 13-week cash flow forecast on a weekly basis through completion of the September 2023 borrowing base redetermination and (vii) a temporary restriction on borrowing further amounts under the Prior Credit Agreement until the Company has received at least \$95 million of net proceeds from the sales of the Company's equity securities, which has been subsequently satisfied and the restriction no longer applies.

In connection with the entry into the aforementioned Term Loan Credit Agreement, the Prior Credit Agreement was terminated, all outstanding obligations for principal, interest and fees were paid in full, and all liens securing such obligations and guarantees of such obligations and securing any letter of credit or hedging obligations (other than those novated pursuant to the terms of the Term Loan Credit Agreement) permitted by the Prior Credit Agreement to be secured by such liens were released. In addition, unamortized debt issuance costs as of the termination date of \$2.7 million were charged to expense and included in loss on extinguishment of debt during the third quarter of 2023.

10.000% Senior Notes. In February 2022, the Company issued \$225.0 million aggregate principal amount of its 10.000% Senior Notes due 2024 ("10.000% Senior Notes"), which were set to mature on February 15, 2024. The Company received proceeds of \$202.9 million, net of \$22.1 million of issuance costs and discounts. The net proceeds were used to pay down the balance of the Prior Credit Agreement to zero at closing and to fund our ongoing capital development program with subsequent draws on the Prior Credit Agreement. Interest on the 10.000% Senior Notes was payable on February 15 and August 15 of each year. In connection with the aforementioned Term Loan Credit Agreement, the 10.000% Senior Notes were redeemed at a redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued and unpaid interest and fees. In addition, unamortized discounts and debt issuance costs as of the redemption date of \$3.2 million and \$1.5 million, respectively, were charged to expense and included in loss on extinguishment of debt during the third quarter of 2023.

10.625% Senior Notes. In November 2022 and December 2022, the Company issued \$225.0 million and \$25.0 million, respectively, under separate indentures, of its 10.625% Senior Notes due 2024 ("10.625% Senior Notes"), which were set to mature on November 15, 2024. The Company received proceeds of \$223.7 million, net of \$26.3 million of issuance costs and discounts. The net proceeds were used to reduce the outstanding balance of the Prior Credit Agreement at closing and for general corporate purposes. Interest on the 10.625% Senior Notes was payable on May 15 and November 15 of each year. In addition, the Company paid additional interest of \$8.3 million in June 2023 in accordance with the indentures whereby if the Company did not receive a rating increase by June 30, 2023, it was required to pay said additional interest that is included in interest expense during the nine months ended September 30, 2023. In connection with the aforementioned Term Loan Credit Agreement, the 10.625% Senior Notes were redeemed at a redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued and unpaid interest and fees, plus the applicable premium calculated as \$4.5 million, which was the present value at September 14, 2023 of all required interest payments due on the 10.625% Senior Notes through November 15, 2023. In addition, unamortized discounts and debt issuance costs as of the redemption date of \$11.7 million and \$3.7 million, respectively, were charged to expense and included in loss on extinguishment of debt during the third quarter of 2023.

NOTE 8. Asset Retirement Obligations

The Company's asset retirement obligations primarily relate to the future plugging and abandonment of wells and remediation of related facilities. Market risk premiums associated with asset retirement obligations are estimated to represent a component of the Company's credit-adjusted risk-free rate that is utilized in the calculations of asset retirement obligations.

Asset retirement obligations activity is as follows (in thousands):

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024
Beginning asset retirement obligations	\$ 13,245
Liabilities incurred from new wells	472
Dispositions	(208)
Accretion of discount	722
Ending asset retirement obligations	\$ 14,231

As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, all asset retirement obligations are considered noncurrent and classified as such in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets.

NOTE 9. Incentive Plans

401(k) Plan. The HighPeak Energy Employees, Inc 401(k) Plan (the "401(k) Plan") is a defined contribution plan established under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). All regular full-time and part-time employees of the Company are eligible to participate in the 401(k) Plan after three continuous months of employment with the Company. Participants may contribute up to 80 percent of their annual base salary into the 401(k) Plan. Matching contributions are made to the 401(k) Plan in cash by the Company in amounts equal to 100 percent of a participant's contributions to the 401(k) Plan up to four percent of the participant's annual base salary (the "Matching Contribution"). Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions, Matching Contributions and allocations of the 401(k) Plan's earnings. Participants are fully vested in their account balances at their eligibility date. During the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, the Company contributed \$314,000 and \$176,000 to the 401(k) Plan, respectively.

Long-Term Incentive Plan. The Company's Second Amended & Restated Long Term Incentive Plan ("LTIP") provides for the grant of stock options, restricted stock, stock awards, dividend equivalents, cash awards and substitute awards to officers, employees, directors and consultants of the Company. The number of shares available for grant pursuant to awards under the LTIP as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 are as follows:

	September 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
Approved and authorized shares	16,414,015	16,414,015
Shares subject to awards issued under plan	(15,808,671)	(15,759,791)
Shares available for future grant	605,344	654,224

Stock options. Stock option awards were granted to employees on August 24, 2020, November 4, 2021, May 4, 2022, August 15, 2022 and July 21, 2023. Stock-based compensation expense related to the Company's stock option awards for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 was \$86,000 and \$10.9 million, respectively, and as of September 30, 2024 there was no unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to unvested stock option awards. The 1,949,000 stock options granted in July 2023 were 100% vested upon grant on July 21, 2023. However, to encourage long-term alignment with the Company stockholders, the stock options are not exercisable until the earlier of (i) August 31, 2026, (ii) upon a change in control or (iii) upon the death or disability of the grantee.

The Company estimates the fair value of stock options granted on the grant date using a Black-Scholes option valuation model, which requires the Company to make several assumptions. The expected term of options granted was determined based on the simplified method of the midpoint between the vesting dates and the contractual term of the options. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. treasury yield curve rate for the expected term of the option at the date of grant and the volatility was based on the volatility of either an index of exploration and production crude oil and natural gas companies or on a peer group of companies with similar characteristics of the Company on the date of grant since the Company had minimal or did not have any trading history. More detailed stock options activity and details are as follows:

	Stock Options	Average Exercise Price	Remaining Term in Years	Intrinsic Value (in thousands)
Outstanding at December 31, 2022	11,517,228	\$ 12.20	7.9	\$ 128,429
Awards granted	1,949,000	10.50		
Exercised	(11,834)	\$ 12.52		
Forfeitures	(5,333)	\$ 24.83		
Outstanding at December 31, 2023	13,449,061	\$ 11.95	6.3	\$ 47,672
Forfeitures	(4,999)	\$ 26.44		
Outstanding at September 30, 2024	13,444,062	\$ 11.95	5.6	\$ 43,542
Vested at December 31, 2023	13,387,074	\$ 11.88	6.3	\$ 47,672
Exercisable at December 31, 2023	11,438,074	\$ 12.12	6.9	\$ 40,383
Vested at September 30, 2024	13,444,062	\$ 11.95	5.6	\$ 43,542
Exercisable at September 30, 2024	11,495,062	\$ 12.19	6.2	\$ 36,954

Restricted stock issued to employee members of the Board and certain employees. A total of 1,500,500 shares of restricted stock was approved by the Board to be granted to certain employee members of the Board of the Company on November 4, 2021, which vest on the three-year anniversary of such grant assuming the employees remain in his or her position as of the anniversary date. Therefore, stock-based compensation expense of \$5.4 million and \$5.4 million was recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively, and the remaining \$ 599,000 as of September 30, 2024 will be recognized over the remaining restricted period, which was based upon the closing price of the stock on the date of the restricted stock issuance. The Board also approved a total of 600,000 shares of restricted stock to be granted to certain employees of the Company on June 1, 2022, which vest on November 4, 2024, assuming the employees remain in his or her position as of that date. Therefore, stock-based compensation expense of \$5.3 million and \$5.3 million was recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively, and the remaining \$587,000 as of September 30, 2024 will be recognized over the remaining restricted period, which was based upon the closing price of the stock on the date of the restricted stock issuance. Subsequent to quarter end, the vesting date for the aforementioned 2,100,500 shares of restricted stock was extended from November 4, 2024 to December 31, 2025 to ensure said restricted stock would continue to provide retention value to the Company. There is no excess stock-based compensation expense anticipated as the closing prices on the modification date is lower than the original grant dates.

Stock issued to outside directors. A total of 53,879 shares of restricted stock was approved by the Board to be granted to the outside directors of the Company on June 4, 2024, which will vest at the next annual meeting, assuming the Board members maintain their positions on the Board. Therefore, stock-based compensation expense of \$253,000 was recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and the remaining \$505,000 will be recognized during the remainder of 2024 and the first half of 2025, which was based upon the closing price of the stock on the date of the restricted stock issuance. Also, a total of 58,767 shares of restricted stock was approved by the Board to be granted to the outside directors of the Company on June 1, 2023, which vested on June 4, 2024. Therefore, stock-based compensation expense of \$316,000 and \$253,000 was recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively, which was based upon the closing price of the stock on the date of the restricted stock issuance. In addition, a total of 21,184 shares of restricted stock was approved by the Board to be granted to the outside directors of the Company on June 1, 2022, which vested during the second quarter of 2023. Therefore, stock-based compensation expense of \$305,000 was recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2023, which was based upon the closing price of the stock on the date of the restricted stock issuance.

NOTE 10. Commitments and Contingencies

Leases. The Company follows ASC Topic 842, "Leases" to account for its operating and finance leases. Therefore, as of September 30, 2024 the Company had right-of-use assets totaling \$406,000 included in other noncurrent assets and operating lease liabilities totaling \$ 416,000, \$290,000 of which is included in current liabilities and \$126,000 of which is included in noncurrent liabilities, and as of December 31, 2023 the Company had right-of-use assets totaling \$510,000 included in other noncurrent assets and operating lease liabilities totaling \$ 528,000 included in current liabilities on the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. The Company does not currently have any finance right-of-use leases. Maturities of the operating lease obligations are as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2024
Remainder of 2024	\$ 182
2025	261
Total	443
Less present value discount	(27)
Present value of lease liabilities	\$ 416

Legal actions. From time to time, the Company may be a party to various proceedings and claims incidental to its business. While many of these matters involve inherent uncertainty, the Company believes that the amount of the liability, if any, ultimately incurred with respect to these proceedings and claims will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position as a whole or on its liquidity, capital resources or future annual results of operations. The Company records reserves for contingencies when information available indicates that a loss is probable, and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated.

Indemnifications. The Company has agreed to indemnify its directors, officers and certain employees and agents with respect to claims and damages arising from acts or omissions taken in such capacity, as well as with respect to certain litigation.

Environmental. Environmental expenditures that relate to an existing condition caused by past operations and have no future economic benefits are expensed. Environmental expenditures that extend the life of the related property or mitigate or prevent future environmental contamination are capitalized. Liabilities for expenditures that will not qualify for capitalization are recorded when environmental assessment and/or remediation is probable, and the costs can be reasonably estimated. Such liabilities are undiscounted unless the timing of cash payments for the liability is fixed or reliably determinable. Environmental liabilities normally involve estimates that are subject to revision until settlement or remediation occurs.

Crude oil delivery commitments. In September 2024, the Company entered into an amended and restated crude oil marketing contract with DK Trading & Supply, LLC ("Delek") as the purchaser and DKL Permian Gathering, LLC ("DKL") as the gatherer and transporter. The contract includes the Company's current and future crude oil production from the majority of its horizontal wells in Flat Top and Signal Peak where DKL is continually constructing a crude oil gathering system and custody transfer meters to most of the Company's central tank batteries. The contract contains a minimum volume commitment commencing May 2024 that totals \$138.7 million based on the gross piped barrels delivered of 23,500 Bopd for the first ten years of the contract at a certain amount per barrel escalating throughout the term of the contract. However, the Company generally has the ability under the contract to cumulatively bank dollars based on excess volumes delivered to offset the minimum volume commitment. For the period from May 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024, the Company has delivered approximately 28,255 Bopd under the contract. The remaining monetary commitment as of September 30, 2024, if the Company never delivers any additional volumes under the agreement, is approximately \$133.9 million.

Natural gas purchasing replacement contract. In May 2021, the Company entered into a replacement natural gas purchase contract with the gatherer, processor and purchaser of the Company's current and future gross natural gas production in Flat Top. The replacement contract provides the Company with improved natural gas and NGL pricing and required the expansion of the current low-pressure gathering system, which eliminates the need for in-field compression in Flat Top to accommodate the Company's increased natural gas production volumes based on the current plan of development. The Company provides certain aid-in-construction payments to be reimbursed over time based on throughput through the system. The replacement contract does not contain any minimum volume commitments.

Natural Gas Gathering and Treating Agreement (Signal Peak). In June 2024, the Company entered into a natural gas gathering and treating agreement to gather certain natural gas in its Signal Peak area. Pursuant to said agreement, the Company has agreed to fund certain aid-in-construction costs totaling \$2.7 million through September 30, 2024, \$2.7 million during the remainder of 2024 and \$27.2 million throughout 2025 as certain milestones are attained. The agreement does not contain any minimum volume commitments.

Power contracts. In June 2022, the Company entered into a contract to provide a block of electric power at an attractive variable rate, which fluctuates based on the usage by the Company through May 31, 2032. In March 2024, the Company entered into a contract to provide an additional block of electric power under similar terms. In conjunction with these contracts, the Company has a \$4.6 million Letter of Credit in place in lieu of a deposit that is cancellable at the end of the contract term.

Sand commitments. The Company is party to an amended agreement whereby it has agreed to purchase at least 750,000 tons of sand over a fifteen-month period beginning April 1, 2024. The Company has taken deliveries of approximately 349,000 tons of sand through September 30, 2024, leaving a commitment of approximately 401,000 remaining. There are stipulations in the agreement that reduce this commitment should there be a downturn in crude oil prices. Generally, if the Company never takes delivery of any additional sand under the agreement, the monetary commitment that remains as of September 30, 2024 is approximately \$10.2 million.

NOTE 11. Related Party Transactions

Underwritten Equity Offering. In connection with the Company's underwritten equity offering in July 2023, certain of the Company's stockholders, John Paul DeJoria Family Trust and Jack Hightower, the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and entities and individuals associated with them, purchased an aggregate of approximately 10 million shares of Common Stock in the offering at the public offering price per share. In connection therewith, the Underwriter received a reduced underwriting discount on such shares purchased by these persons or entities compared with other shares sold to the public in the offering.

Water Treatment. In May 2022, the Company entered into an agreement with Pilot Exploration, Inc. ("Pilot") to utilize Pilot's proprietary water treatment technology in the Company's Flat Top area to treat produced water such that it can be reused in the Company's completion operations or sold to third parties for their completion operations. During the one-year term of the agreement, beginning on October 1, 2022, the Company agreed to a minimum volume commitment of 29.2 million barrels of produced water while maintaining the ability to bank excess produced water processed each month toward the minimum volume commitment. During the nine months ended September 30, 2023, the Company paid \$1.5 million to Pilot for such services. In April 2023, the Company terminated the contract with Pilot in exchange for \$6.5 million that was paid and charged to other expense in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements during the nine months ended September 30, 2023.

NOTE 12. Major Customers

Delek accounted for approximately 76% and 73% and Energy Transfer Crude Marketing, LLC ("ETC") accounted for approximately 19% and 23% of the Company's revenues during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively. Based on the current demand for crude oil and natural gas and the availability of other purchasers, management believes the loss of either of these major purchasers would not have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations because crude oil and natural gas are fungible products with well-established markets and numerous purchasers.

NOTE 13. Income Taxes

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. The Company is subject to corporate income taxes and Texas margin tax. The Company and its subsidiaries file a U.S. federal corporate income tax return on a consolidated basis.

On August 16, 2022, President Biden signed into law the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 ("IRA 2022"), which among other tax provisions, created a 15 percent corporate alternative minimum tax ("CAMT") on the "adjusted financial statement income" of certain large corporations (generally, corporations reporting at least \$1.0 billion of average adjusted pre-tax net income on their consolidated financial statements) as well as an excise tax of 1% on the fair market value of certain public company stock repurchases for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022. Based on application of currently available guidance, the Company's income tax expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 was not impacted by the CAMT. The Company's excise tax during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 was immaterial and was recognized as part of the cost basis of the stock repurchased.

The Company's provision for income taxes attributable to income before income taxes consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Current income tax expense:				
Federal	\$ 293	\$ —	\$ 569	\$ —
State	218	—	519	—
Total current income tax expense	511	—	1,088	—
Deferred income tax expense:				
Federal	14,390	13,347	29,703	36,388
State	537	753	1,194	1,863
Deferred income tax expense	14,927	14,100	30,897	38,251
Total income tax expense	\$ 15,438	\$ 14,100	\$ 31,985	\$ 38,251

The reconciliation between the provision for income taxes computed by multiplying pre-tax income by the U.S. federal statutory rate and the reported amounts of provision for income taxes is as follows (in thousands, except rate):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Income tax expense at U.S. federal statutory rate	\$ 13,728	\$ 11,105	\$ 24,795	\$ 33,414
Limited tax benefit due to stock-based compensation	861	2,211	5,297	2,951
State deferred income taxes	709	753	1,604	1,863
Other, net	140	31	289	23
Income tax expense	<u>\$ 15,438</u>	<u>\$ 14,100</u>	<u>\$ 31,985</u>	<u>\$ 38,251</u>
Effective income tax rate	23.6%	26.7%	27.1%	24.0%

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and liabilities were as follows as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 (in thousands):

	September 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
Deferred tax assets:		
Interest expense limitations	\$ 64,387	\$ 41,352
Net operating loss carryforwards	11,023	13,503
Stock-based compensation	3,311	6,332
Other	—	36
Less: Valuation allowance	—	—
Deferred tax assets	<u>78,721</u>	<u>61,223</u>
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Crude oil and natural gas properties, principally due to differences in basis and depreciation and the deduction of intangible drilling costs for tax purposes	(301,489)	(250,859)
Unrecognized derivative gains, net	(4,946)	(7,432)
Other	(252)	—
Deferred tax liabilities	<u>(306,687)</u>	<u>(258,291)</u>
Net deferred tax liabilities	<u>\$ (227,966)</u>	<u>\$ (197,068)</u>

The effective income tax rate differs from the U.S. statutory rate of 21 percent primarily due to deferred state income taxes and other permanent differences between GAAP income and taxable income.

As required by ASC Topic 740, "Income Taxes," ("ASC 740") the Company uses reasonable judgments and makes estimates and assumptions related to evaluating the probability of uncertain tax positions. The Company bases its estimates and assumptions on the potential liability related to an assessment of whether the income tax position will "more likely than not" be sustained in an income tax audit. Based on that analysis, the Company believes the Company has not taken any material uncertain tax positions, and therefore has not recorded an income tax liability related to uncertain tax positions. However, if actual results materially differ, the Company's effective income tax rate and cash flows could be affected in the period of discovery or resolution. The Company also reviews the estimates and assumptions used in evaluating the probability of realizing the future benefits of the Company's deferred tax assets and records a valuation allowance when the Company believes that a portion or all the deferred tax assets may not be realized. If the Company is unable to realize the expected future benefits of its deferred tax assets, the Company is required to provide a valuation allowance. The Company uses its history and experience, overall profitability, future management plans, tax planning strategies, and current economic information to evaluate the amount of valuation allowance to record. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the Company had not recorded a valuation allowance for deferred tax assets arising from its operations because the Company believed they met the "more likely than not" criteria as defined by the recognition and measurement provisions of ASC 740. The Company reversed a portion of its deferred tax asset related to stock-based compensation based on the assumption that the tax deduction will be subject to IRC Section 162(m) limits when the restricted stock vests. IRC Section 162(m) limits compensation deductions to \$1.0 million per year for certain Company executives. This resulted in a \$ 3.0 million reduction in the deferred tax asset and increased the amount of income tax expense realized during the nine months ended September 30, 2024.

The Company is also subject to Texas margin tax. The Company realized \$ 519,000 and zero in current Texas margin tax in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively. In addition, the Company has recognized a net deferred Texas margin tax liability of \$8.3 million and \$6.0 million as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively, in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets.

NOTE 14. Earnings Per Share

The Company uses the two-class method of calculating earnings per share because certain of the Company's stock-based awards qualify as participating securities.

The Company's basic earnings per share attributable to common stockholders is computed as (i) net income as reported, (ii) less participating basic earnings (iii) divided by weighted average basic common shares outstanding. The Company's diluted earnings per share attributable to common stockholders is computed as (i) basic earnings attributable to common stockholders, (ii) plus reallocation of participating earnings (iii) divided by weighted average diluted common shares outstanding.

The following table reconciles the Company's earnings from operations and earnings attributable to common stockholders to the basic and diluted earnings used to determine the Company's earnings per share amounts for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 under the two-class method (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Net income as reported	\$ 49,933	\$ 38,779	\$ 86,088	\$ 120,862
Participating basic earnings (a)	(4,835)	(3,771)	(8,280)	(12,413)
Basic earnings attributable to common stockholders	45,098	35,008	77,808	108,449
Reallocation of participating earnings	66	54	102	192
Diluted net income attributable to common stockholders	\$ 45,164	\$ 35,062	\$ 77,910	\$ 108,641
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	124,988	123,159	125,595	115,164
Dilutive warrants and unvested stock options	1,952	1,688	1,832	3,208
Dilutive unvested restricted stock	2,154	2,159	2,154	2,159
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	129,094	127,006	129,581	120,531

- (a) Vested stock options represent participating securities because they participate in dividend equivalents with the common equity holders of the Company. Participating earnings represent the distributed and undistributed earnings of the Company attributable to the participating securities. Certain unvested restricted stock awarded to outside directors, employee members of the Board and certain employees do not represent participating securities because, while they participate in dividends with the common equity holders of the Company, the dividends associated with such unvested restricted stock are forfeitable in connection with the forfeitability of the underlying restricted stock. Unvested stock options do not represent participating securities because, while they participate in dividend equivalents with the common equity holders of the Company, the dividend equivalents associated with unvested stock options are forfeitable in connection with the forfeitability of the underlying stock options.

The calculation for weighted average shares reflects shares outstanding over the reporting period based on the actual number of days the shares were outstanding.

NOTE 15. Stockholders' Equity

Stock Repurchase Program. In February 2024, the Company's board of directors approved a common stock repurchase program to acquire up to \$75.0 million of the Company's outstanding common stock, excluding excise taxes and other expenses, which expires on December 31, 2024. Purchases under the repurchase program may be made from time to time in open market or privately negotiated transactions, and are subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements, contractual obligations and other factors. The repurchase program does not require the Company to acquire any specific number of shares. This repurchase program may be suspended from time to time, modified, extended or discontinued by the board of directors at any time. During the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, the Company repurchased, excluding excise taxes and other expenses, approximately \$27.2 million and zero of common stock under this repurchase program, respectively. As of September 30, 2024, up to approximately \$47.8 million remained available for use to repurchase shares under the Company's common stock repurchase program, excluding excise taxes and other expenses.

Issuance of Common Stock. During the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, the Company issued 55 and 162,129 shares, respectively, of HighPeak Energy common stock as a result of warrants being exercised (55 and 150,295, respectively) and stock options (zero and 11,834, respectively).

Dividends and Dividend Equivalents. In August 2024, the Board declared a quarterly dividend of \$ 0.04 per share of common stock outstanding which resulted in a total of \$5.0 million in dividends being paid in September 2024. In addition, under the terms of the LTIP, the Company paid a dividend equivalent per share to all vested stock option holders of \$534,000 in September 2024 and accrued a dividend equivalent per share to all unvested stock option holders which will be payable upon vesting, assuming no forfeitures. In addition, the Company accrued an additional combined \$86,000 in dividends on the restricted stock issued to directors, management directors and certain employees that will be payable upon vesting.

In May 2024, the Board declared a quarterly dividend of \$ 0.04 per share of common stock outstanding which resulted in a total of \$ 5.0 million in dividends being paid in June 2024. In addition, under the terms of the LTIP, the Company paid a dividend equivalent per share to all vested stock option holders of \$538,000 in June 2024 and accrued a dividend equivalent per share to all unvested stock option holders which will be payable upon vesting, assuming no forfeitures. In addition, the Company accrued an additional combined \$84,000 in dividends on the restricted stock issued to directors, management directors and certain employees that will be payable upon vesting.

In February 2024, the Board declared a quarterly dividend of \$ 0.04 per share of common stock outstanding which resulted in a total of \$ 5.1 million in dividends being paid in March 2024. In addition, under the terms of the LTIP, the Company paid a dividend equivalent per share to all vested stock option holders of \$530,000 in March 2024 and accrued a dividend equivalent per share to all unvested stock option holders which will be payable upon vesting, assuming no forfeitures. In addition, the Company accrued an additional combined \$86,000 in dividends on the restricted stock issued to directors, management directors and certain employees that will be payable upon vesting.

In July 2023, the Board declared a quarterly dividend of \$ 0.025 per share of common stock outstanding which resulted in a total of \$ 3.2 million in dividends being paid on August 25, 2023. In addition, under the terms of the LTIP, the Company paid a dividend equivalent per share to all vested stock option holders of \$333,000 in August 2023 and accrued a dividend equivalent per share to all unvested stock option holders which will be payable upon vesting, assuming no forfeitures. In addition, the Company accrued an additional combined \$54,000 in dividends on the restricted stock issued to directors, management directors and certain employees that will be payable upon vesting.

In April 2023, the Board declared a quarterly dividend of \$ 0.025 per share of common stock outstanding which resulted in a total of \$ 2.8 million in dividends being paid in May 2023. In addition, under the terms of the LTIP, the Company paid a dividend equivalent per share to all vested stock option holders of \$282,000 in May 2023 and accrued a dividend equivalent per share to all unvested stock option holders which will be payable upon vesting, assuming no forfeitures. In addition, the Company accrued an additional combined \$53,000 in dividends on the restricted stock issued to directors, management directors and certain employees that will be payable upon vesting.

In January 2023, the Board declared a quarterly dividend of \$ 0.025 per share of common stock outstanding which resulted in a total of \$ 2.8 million in dividends being paid in February 2023. In addition, under the terms of the LTIP, the Company paid a dividend equivalent per share to all vested stock option holders of \$283,000 in February 2023 and accrued a dividend equivalent per share to all unvested stock option holders which will be payable upon vesting, assuming no forfeitures. In addition, the Company accrued an additional combined \$53,000 in dividends on the restricted stock issued to directors, management directors and certain employees that will be payable upon vesting.

Outstanding securities. At September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the Company had 126,625,221 and 128,420,923 shares of common stock outstanding, respectively, and 7,934,922 and 7,934,977 warrants outstanding, respectively, with an exercise price of \$ 11.50 per share that expire on August 21, 2025.

NOTE 16. Subsequent Events

Dividends and dividend equivalents. In November 2024, the Board approved a quarterly dividend of \$ 0.04 per share of common stock outstanding which will result in a total of approximately \$5.0 million in dividends to be paid in December 2024. In addition, under the terms of the LTIP, the Company will pay a dividend equivalent per share to all vested stock option holders of approximately \$538,000 in December 2024. In addition, the Company will accrue an additional combined \$86,000 in dividends on the restricted stock issued to directors, management directors and certain employees that will be payable upon vesting.

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion and analysis is intended to assist you in understanding our business and results of operations together with our present financial condition. This section should be read in conjunction with our historical consolidated financial statements and related notes. This discussion contains certain "forward-looking statements" reflecting our current expectations, estimates and assumptions concerning events and financial trends that may affect our future operating results or financial position. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and actual results and the timing of events may differ materially from those contained in these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, market prices for crude oil, NGL and natural gas, capital expenditures, economic and competitive conditions, regulatory changes and other uncertainties. Please read "Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements." We assume no obligation to update any of these forward-looking statements, except as required by applicable law.

Overview

HighPeak Energy, Inc., a Delaware corporation, which was formed in October 2019, is an independent crude oil and natural gas exploration and production company that explores for, develops and produces crude oil, NGL and natural gas in the Permian Basin in West Texas, more specifically, the Midland Basin. The Company's assets are located primarily in Howard and Borden Counties, Texas, and to a lesser extent Scurry and Mitchell Counties, which lie within the northeastern part of the crude oil-rich Midland Basin. As of September 30, 2024, the assets consisted of two generally contiguous leasehold positions of approximately 147,795 gross (137,207 net) acres, approximately 65% of which were held by production, with an average working interest of approximately 93%. Our acreage is composed of two core areas, Flat Top primarily in the northern portion of Howard County extending into southern Borden County, southwest Scurry County and northwest Mitchell County and Signal Peak in the southern portion of Howard County. We operate approximately 97% of the net acreage across the Company's assets and more than 90% of the net operated acreage provides for horizontal wells with lateral lengths of 10,000 feet or greater. For the nine months ended September 30, 2024, approximately 89% and 11% of sales volumes from the assets were attributable to liquids (both crude oil and NGL) and natural gas, respectively. As of September 30, 2024, HighPeak Energy was developing its properties using two (2) drilling rigs and one (1) frac crew and expects to average two (2) drilling rigs and one (1) frac crew for the remainder of 2024.

Recent Events

Share Repurchase Program. In February 2024, the Board approved a repurchase program of up to \$75 million of the Company's common stock. The approval grants management the authority to repurchase shares opportunistically in the open market from time to time, through block trades, in privately negotiated transactions or by such other means which comply with applicable state and federal laws. This is the Company's first authorization for a stock repurchase program since its founding.

The Company intends to fund the repurchases from available working capital, cash provided from operations and borrowings under its Senior Credit Facility Agreement. The timing, number and value of shares repurchased under the program will be at the discretion of management and the Board of Directors and will depend on a number of factors, including general market and economic conditions, business conditions, the trading price of the Company's common stock, the nature of other investment opportunities available to the Company and compliance with the Company's debt and other agreements. The stock repurchase program does not obligate HighPeak to acquire any particular dollar amount or number of shares of its common stock and the stock repurchase program may be suspended from time to time, modified, extended or discontinued by the Company's Board of Directors. During the nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company repurchased 1.8 million shares of its common stock at an average cost of \$14.73 per share for a total of approximately \$27.2 million, excluding any potential excise taxes. The stock repurchase program authority will expire December 31, 2024.

Dividends and dividend equivalents. In August 2024, the Board declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.04 per share of common stock outstanding which resulted in a total of \$5.0 million in dividends being paid in September 2024. In addition, under the terms of the LTIP, the Company paid a dividend equivalent per share to all vested stock option holders of \$534,000 in September 2024 and accrued a dividend equivalent per share to all unvested stock option holders which is payable upon vesting, assuming no forfeitures. In addition, the Company accrued an additional combined \$86,000 in September 2024 in dividends on the restricted stock issued to directors, management directors and certain employees that will be payable upon vesting.

Acquisitions. During the nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company incurred a total of \$10.4 million in acquisition costs related to lease extensions and to acquire crude oil and natural gas leases covering additional contiguous bolt-on undeveloped acreage contiguous to its Flat Top and Signal Peak operating areas.

Crude oil sales contract. In September 2024, the Company entered into an amended and restated crude oil marketing contract with DK Trading & Supply, LLC ("Delek") as the purchaser and DKL Permian Gathering, LLC ("DKL") as the gatherer and transporter. The contract includes the Company's current and future crude oil production from the majority of its horizontal wells in Flat Top and Signal Peak where DKL is continually constructing a crude oil gathering system and custody transfer meters to most of the Company's central tank batteries. The contract contains a minimum volume commitment commencing May 2024 that totals \$138.7 million based on the gross piped barrels delivered of 23,500 Bopd for the first ten years of the contract at a certain amount per barrel escalating throughout the term of the contract. However, the Company generally has the ability under the contract to cumulatively bank dollars based on excess volumes delivered to offset the minimum volume commitment. For the period from May 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024, the Company has delivered approximately 28,255 Bopd under the contract. The remaining monetary commitment as of September 30, 2024, if the Company never delivers any additional volumes under the agreement, is approximately \$133.9 million.

Crude Oil and Natural Gas Industry Considerations. Since mid-2020, crude oil prices have improved, with demand steadily increasing. In addition, sanctions and import bans on Russia have been implemented by various countries in response to the war in Ukraine, further impacting global crude oil supply. As a result of crude oil and natural gas supply constraints, there have been significant increases in European energy costs, which have resulted in inflationary pressures throughout Europe, increasing prospects of recession in many countries throughout the continent. In April 2023, OPEC announced production cuts of around 1.16 million Bopd. On June 4, 2023, OPEC agreed to extend these previously announced production cuts through the end of 2024. On July 3, 2023, Saudi Arabia announced it was extending voluntary cuts through August 2023. In June 2024, OPEC announced it would extend cuts of 3.66 million Bopd through the end of 2025, while gradually phasing out 2.2 million Bopd of voluntary cuts beginning in October 2024. However, as a result of current global supply and demand imbalances, crude oil prices remain strong, although down from the prior year. In addition, the war between Russia and Ukraine and ongoing conflicts between Israel and Hamas, Israel and Iran and other tensions in the Middle East have resulted in global supply chain disruptions, which has led to significant cost inflation.

Global crude oil price levels and inflationary pressures will ultimately depend on various factors that are beyond the Company's control, such as (i) general economic conditions and increasing expectations that the world may be heading into a global recession, (ii) the ability of OPEC and other crude oil producing nations to manage the global crude oil supply, (iii) the impact of sanctions and import bans on production from Russia and any resulting impact on production from the Israel-Hamas and the Israel-Iran conflicts, (iv) the timing and supply impact of any Iranian or Venezuelan sanction relief on their ability to export crude oil, (v) the global supply chain constraints associated with manufacturing and distribution delays, (vi) oilfield service demand and cost inflation, and (vii) political stability of crude oil consuming countries. The Company continues to assess and monitor the impact of these factors and consequences on the Company and its operations.

Outlook

HighPeak Energy's financial position and future prospects, including its revenues, operating results, profitability, liquidity, future growth and the value of its assets, depend heavily on prevailing commodity prices. The crude oil and natural gas industry is cyclical and commodity prices are highly volatile and subject to a high degree of uncertainty. For example, during the period from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2024, the calendar month average NYMEX WTI crude oil price per Bbl ranged from a low of \$16.70 to a high of \$114.34, and the last trading day NYMEX natural gas price per MMBtu ranged from a low of \$1.50 to a high of \$9.35.

The market for crude oil strengthened in 2021 from historic lows in 2020 and continued to remain strong in 2023 and continuing in 2024, although the market has decreased from 2022 levels overall, as a result of increased supply outpacing increased demand. However, there are many factors beyond the Company's control, including commodity markets, unavailability or high cost of drilling rigs, equipment, supplies, personnel, frac crews and oilfield services or supply constraints remain subject to heightened levels of uncertainty as a result of the conflicts between Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Hamas and Israel and Iran, elevated interest rates and associated policies of the Federal Reserve, which could adversely affect HighPeak Energy. For additional information on the risks, see "Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023, filed with the SEC on March 6, 2024 (the "Annual Report").

Given the dynamic nature of this situation, the Company is maintaining flexibility in its capital plan as indicated by its anticipated two (2) drilling rig program for the remainder of 2024. The Company will continue to evaluate drilling and completion activity on an economic basis, with future activity levels assessed monthly. Despite continuing impacts of the factors listed above and future uncertainty, we are focused on maintaining our ability to sustain strong operational performance and financial stability while maximizing returns, improving leverage metrics, and increasing the value of our Midland Basin assets.

Strategic Alternatives

On January 23, 2023, the Company announced the intention of its Board to initiate a process to evaluate certain strategic alternatives to maximize shareholder value, including a potential sale of the Company. Texas Capital Securities and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC have been retained as a financial advisors with respect to this strategic alternatives process. To date, however, this process has been exploratory in nature and accordingly remains in preliminary stages, with our discussions to date with prospective counterparties generally excluding substantive discussions or key transaction terms. The Company has not set a timetable for the conclusion of this review, nor has it made any decisions related to any further actions or potential strategic alternatives at this time. There can be no assurance that the review will progress beyond this exploratory phase or result in any transaction or other strategic change or outcome. The Company does not intend to comment further regarding the strategic alternatives process unless and until our Board has approved a specific course of action or we have otherwise determined that further disclosure is appropriate or required by law.

Financial and Operating Performance

The Company's financial and operating performance for the three months ended September 30, 2024 included the highlights described below and comparative discussion of related drivers for the three months ended September 30, 2023:

- Net income was \$49.9 million (\$0.35 per diluted share) for the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared with \$38.8 million for three months ended September 30, 2023. The primary components of the \$11.1 million increase in net income include:
 - a \$62.0 million decrease in the Company's derivative instruments loss from a \$29.7 million loss in the prior year period compared with a \$42.6 million gain in the current year quarter as a result of its crude oil commodity contracts entered into and the change in crude oil prices thereafter;
 - a \$27.3 million decrease in loss on extinguishment of debt due to the Company's refinancing of its long-term debt in September 2023 which caused a loss to be recognized at the time the prior debt was repaid and terminated;
 - a \$10.3 million decrease in the Company's stock-based compensation expense primarily due to stock options that were granted during the three months ended September 30, 2023 that were 100% vested upon issuance and thus the expense was recognized at the time of grant compared with none being granted during the three months ended September 30, 2024;
 - a \$4.4 million decrease in the Company's crude oil and natural gas production costs primarily as a result of lower chemical and other treating costs throughout Flat Top specifically; and
 - a \$3.4 million decrease in production and ad valorem taxes, primarily attributable to the 19% decrease in average realized commodity prices per Boe, excluding the effects of derivatives, plus a 3% decrease in daily sales volumes resulting primarily from a major rain storm at the beginning of September that caused a significant amount of flooding and shut in a significant amount of production for a short time, effecting current quarter sales volumes by approximately 750 Boe per day in addition to a production decline resulting from a reduced two-rig development schedule compared with the four to six drilling rigs we were running in early 2023, partially offset by increased NGL and natural gas sales volumes due to third party midstream expansions and debottlenecking, partially offset by an increase in ad valorem taxes in the State of Texas due to the continued growth of the Company's property base;
 - a \$2.0 million decrease in the Company's general and administrative expenses primarily attributable to prior year bonus accrual beginning in the third quarter whereas during the current year the Company has accrued projected bonuses quarterly, partially offset by higher salaries and benefits as well as an increase in professional fees, all primarily as a result of the growth of the Company;
 - a \$1.4 million decrease in the Company's exploration and abandonment expense primarily due to less leasehold abandonments; and
 - a \$1.4 million increase in the Company's interest income due to the increased cash on hand;

Partially offset by:

- a \$74.0 million decrease in crude oil, NGL and natural gas revenues due to a 19% decrease in average realized commodity prices per Boe, excluding the effects of derivatives, plus a 3% decrease in daily sales volumes resulting primarily from a major rain storm at the beginning of September that caused a significant amount of flooding and shut in a significant amount of production for a short time, affecting current quarter sales volumes by approximately 750 Boe per day in addition to a production decline resulting from a reduced two-rig development schedule compared with the four to six drilling rigs we were running in early 2023, partially offset by increased NGL and natural gas sales volumes due to third party midstream expansions and debottlenecking;
- a \$19.2 million increase in DD&A expense due to a 19% increase in the DD&A rate from \$24.21 to \$28.91 per Boe as a result of significant inflationary pressures on capital costs, partially offset by a 3% decrease in daily sales volumes resulting primarily from a major rain storm that caused a significant amount of flooding that occurred at the beginning of September and shut in a significant amount of production for a short time, effecting current quarter sales volumes by approximately 750 Boe per day in addition to a production decline resulting from a reduced two-rig development schedule compared with the four to six drilling rigs we were running in early 2023, partially offset by increased NGL and natural gas sales volumes due to third party midstream expansions and debottlenecking;
- a \$5.6 million increase in interest expense due to the increase in the Company's overall indebtedness and higher interest rates, partially offset by decreased amortization of debt issuance costs and discounts;
- a \$1.3 million increase in the Company's income tax expense primarily due to an increase in income before income taxes; and
- a \$864,000 increase in the Company's other expense primarily as a result of the repair of a production facility that continued into the third quarter of 2024;

- During the three months ended September 30, 2024, average daily sales volumes totaled 51,346 Boepd, compared with 52,708 Boepd during the same period in 2023, a decrease of 3%, due to a major rain storm that caused a significant amount of flooding that occurred at the beginning of September and shut in a significant amount of production for a short time, effecting current quarter sales volumes by approximately 800 Boe per day in addition to a production decline resulting from a reduced two-rig development schedule compares with the four to six drilling rigs we were running in early 2023, partially offset by increased NGL and natural gas sales volumes due to third party midstream expansions and debottlenecking.
- Weighted average realized crude oil prices per Bbl, excluding the effects of derivatives, decreased during the three months ended September 30, 2024 to \$75.99, compared with \$82.87 for the same period in 2023. Weighted average NGL prices per Bbl increased during the three months ended September 30, 2024 to \$21.14, compared with \$20.08 for the same period in 2023. Weighted average natural gas prices per Mcf decreased to \$0.42 during the three months ended September 30, 2024, compared with \$1.89 during the same period in 2023.
- Cash provided by operating activities totaled \$177.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2024, compared with \$158.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2023.

Derivative Financial Instruments

Derivative financial instrument exposure. As of September 30, 2024, the Company was a party to the following open derivative financial instruments.

					Enhanced Collars & Deferred			
					Swaps	Premium Puts		
Settlement Month	Year	Type of Contract	Bbls Per Day	Index	Price per Bbl	Floor or Strike Price per Bbl	Ceiling Price per Bbl	Deferred Premium Payable per Bbl
Crude Oil:								
Oct – Dec	2024	Swap	8,500	WTI Cushing	\$ 74.12	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Oct – Dec	2024	Basis Swap	25,000	Argus WTI Midland	\$ 1.12	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Oct – Dec	2024	Collar	13,667	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 64.41	\$ 87.47	\$ 1.43
Oct – Dec	2024	Put	9,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.78	\$ —	\$ 5.00
Jan – Mar	2025	Swap	7,467	WTI Cushing	\$ 74.69	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Jan – Mar	2025	Collar	11,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 63.64	\$ 86.66	\$ 1.54
Jan – Mar	2025	Put	9,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.78	\$ —	\$ 5.00
Apr – Jun	2025	Swap	5,500	WTI Cushing	\$ 76.37	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Apr – Jun	2025	Collar	7,989	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 64.38	\$ 88.55	\$ 2.00
Apr – Jun	2025	Put	9,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.78	\$ —	\$ 5.00
Jul – Sep	2025	Swap	3,000	WTI Cushing	\$ 75.85	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Jul – Sep	2025	Collar	7,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.00	\$ 90.08	\$ 2.28
Jul – Sep	2025	Put	9,000	WTI Cushing	\$ —	\$ 65.78	\$ —	\$ 5.00

The estimated fair value of the outstanding open derivative financial instruments as of September 30, 2024 was a net asset of \$22.9 million which is included in current assets and current liabilities on the Company's consolidated balance sheet as of September 30, 2024. During the nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company recognized a net derivative loss of \$23.4 million, including a \$11.5 million mark-to-market loss and \$11.9 million in net monthly settlement payments.

Operations and Drilling Highlights

Average daily crude oil, NGL and natural gas sales volumes are as follows:

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024
Crude Oil (Bbls)	38,581
NGL (Bbls)	5,890
Natural Gas (Mcf)	32,418
Total (Boe)	49,874

The Company's liquids production was 89 percent of total production on a Boe basis for the nine months ended September 30, 2024.

Costs incurred are as follows (in thousands):

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024
Unproved property acquisition costs	\$ 9,982
Proved acquisition costs	385
Total acquisitions	10,367
Development costs	348,161
Exploration costs	103,663
Total finding and development costs	462,191
Asset retirement obligations	589
Total costs incurred	\$ 462,780

The following table sets forth the total number of horizontal producing wells drilled and completed during the nine months ended September 30, 2024:

	Drilled		Completed	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Flat Top area	49	47.8	42	40.8
Signal Peak area	6	0.3	9	0.6
Total	55	48.1	51	41.4

As of September 30, 2024, HighPeak Energy was developing its properties using two (2) drilling rigs and one (1) frac crew. The continued threat of an extensive recession, the scope, duration and magnitude of the direct and indirect effects of pandemics, the war between Russia and Ukraine, the Israel-Hamas and Israel-Iran conflicts and the production cuts announced by OPEC are continuing to evolve and in ways that are difficult or impossible to anticipate. Given the dynamic nature of this situation, the Company is maintaining flexibility with its capital plan and will continue to evaluate drilling and completion activity on an economic basis, with future activity levels assessed monthly.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company successfully completed and placed on production fifty-one (51) gross (41.4 net) horizontal wells, forty-seven (47) gross (37.9 net) in the Flat Top area and four (4) gross (3.5 net) in the Signal Peak area. The Company also placed one salt-water disposal well in service in its Flat Top area during the nine months ended September 30, 2024. As of September 30, 2024, the Company had seventeen (17) gross (16.9 net) horizontal wells that had been drilled and were in various stages of completion in the Flat Top area and two (2) gross (2.0 net) horizontal wells that had been drilled and were in various stages of completion in the Signal Peak area. In addition, as of September 30, 2024, the Company was in the process of drilling five (5) gross (5.0 net) horizontal wells, all in the Flat Top area.

Results of Operations

Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024

Crude Oil, NGL and natural gas revenues.

Average daily sales volumes are as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2024	2023	% Change	2024	2023	% Change
Crude Oil (Bbls)	38,710	44,381	(13)%	38,581	37,171	4%
NGL (Bbls)	6,497	4,708	38%	5,890	3,895	51%
Natural Gas (Mcf)	36,831	21,716	70%	32,418	18,221	78%
Total (Boe)	51,346	52,708	(3)%	49,874	44,102	13%

The decrease in overall sale volumes during the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared with the same period in 2023 is primarily the result of a major storm at the beginning of September that caused a significant amount of flooding and shut in a significant amount of production for a short time, effecting current quarter sales volumes by approximately 750 Boe per day in addition to a production decline resulting from a reduced two-rig development schedule compared with the four to six drilling rigs we were running in early 2023, partially offset by increased NGL and natural gas sales volumes due to third party midstream expansions and debottlenecking. The increase in average daily Boe sales volumes for the nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared with the same period in 2023 was primarily due to the Company's successful horizontal drilling program and increased NGL and natural gas sales volumes due to third-party midstream expansions and debottlenecking, partially offset by the aforementioned storm and decline resulting from the reduced drilling program.

The crude oil, NGL and natural gas prices that the Company reports are based on the market prices received for each commodity. The weighted average realized prices, excluding the effects of derivatives, are as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2024	2023	% Change	2024	2023	% Change
Crude Oil per Bbl	\$ 75.99	\$ 82.87	(8)%	\$ 78.29	\$ 77.90	1%
NGL per Bbl	\$ 21.14	\$ 20.08	5%	\$ 21.96	\$ 22.23	(1)%
Natural Gas per Mcf	\$ 0.42	\$ 1.89	(78)%	\$ 0.58	\$ 1.58	(63)%
Total per Boe	\$ 57.49	\$ 71.27	(19)%	\$ 61.07	\$ 67.29	(9)%

Revenue Variance Analysis.

The following table illustrates the variance in revenues attributable to prices versus volumes (in thousands except prices and percentages):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2024	2023	% Change	2024	2023	% Change
Total operating revenues	\$ 271,578	\$ 345,586	(21)%	\$ 834,608	\$ 810,140	3%
Average daily sales volumes (Boe)	51,346	52,708	(3)%	49,874	44,102	13%
Realized price per Boe	\$ 57.49	\$ 71.27	(19)%	\$ 61.07	\$ 67.29	(9)%
Revenue change from prior period due to prices	\$ (66,821)		90%	\$ (74,888)		101%
Revenue change from prior period due to volumes	(7,204)		10%	99,277		(134)%
Rounding	17		0%	79		0%
Total change from prior period revenues	\$ (74,008)			\$ 24,468		

As detailed above, the decrease in total operating revenues for the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 is the result of a 19% decrease in average realized price per Boe coupled with a 3% decrease in average daily sales volumes primarily as a result of a major storm at the beginning of September that caused a significant amount of flooding and shut in a significant amount of production for a short time, effecting current quarter sales volumes by approximately 750 Boe per day in addition to a production decline resulting from a reduced two-rig development schedule compared with the four to six drilling rigs we were running in early 2023, partially offset by increased NGL and natural gas sales volumes due to third party midstream expansions and debottlenecking. Also as detailed above, the increase in total operating revenues for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 is the result of a 13% increase in average daily sales volumes primarily as a result of the Company's successful horizontal drilling program and increased NGL and natural gas sales volumes due to third-party midstream expansions and debottlenecking, partially offset by the aforementioned storm and decline resulting from the reduced drilling program, partially offset by a 9% decrease in average realized price per Boe.

Crude Oil and natural gas production costs.

Crude oil and natural gas production costs in total and per Boe are as follows (in thousands, except percentages and per Boe amounts):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Crude oil and natural gas production costs	\$ 35,413	\$ 39,820		(11)%	\$ 98,482	\$ 107,696		(9)%
Crude oil and natural gas production costs per Boe (excluding expense workovers)	\$ 7.12	\$ 7.87		(10)%	\$ 6.74	\$ 8.23		(18)%
Workover expense	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.34		12%	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.71		(34)%

The decrease in crude oil and natural gas production costs quarter over quarter can be attributed primarily to lower treating and chemical costs and year over year can be attributed primarily to lower treating and chemical costs and lower expense workover costs as well as lower power and fuel costs with the continued reduction in generator power used throughout the field now that we have overhead electric covering the majority of our properties.

Production and ad valorem taxes.

Production and ad valorem taxes are as follows (in thousands, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Production and ad valorem taxes	\$ 15,412	\$ 18,839		(18)%	\$ 46,410	\$ 44,395		5%

In general, production taxes and ad valorem taxes are directly related to commodity sales volumes and price changes; however, Texas ad valorem taxes are based upon an asset valuation assessed by the state as of January 1 of that particular year based on prior year commodity prices, whereas production taxes are based upon current year sales revenues at current commodity prices. Overall, the decrease in production and ad valorem taxes during the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 can be attributed primarily to the 19% decrease in overall commodity prices received in addition to the 3% aforementioned decrease in sales volumes, partially offset by an increase in ad valorem taxes due to the increased property base of the Company. Overall, the increase in production and ad valorem taxes during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the same period in 2023 can be primarily attributed to the 13% aforementioned increase in sales volumes partially offset by a 9% decrease in overall commodity prices received and an increase in ad valorem taxes due to the increased property base of the Company.

Production and ad valorem taxes per Boe are as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Production taxes per Boe	\$ 2.83	\$ 3.38		(16)%	\$ 2.99	\$ 3.21		(7)%
Ad valorem taxes per Boe	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.51		(16)%	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.48		(15)%

The decrease in production taxes per Boe for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared with the same periods in 2023 can be attributed primarily to the lower commodity prices received in 2024. The decrease in ad valorem taxes per Boe for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared with the same periods in 2023, was primarily due to the Company efforts working with the counties to reduce valuations for 2024.

Exploration and abandonments expense.

Exploration and abandonment expense details are as follows (in thousands, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Geologic and geophysical personnel costs	\$ 205	\$ 204		n/m	\$ 641	\$ 625		3%
Plugging and abandonment expense	157	387		(59)%	346	612		(43)%
Abandoned leasehold costs	—	1,137		100%	35	3,068		(99)%
Geologic and geophysical data costs	—	—		n/m	5	67		(93)%
Exploration and abandonments expense	\$ 362	\$ 1,728		(79)%	\$ 1,027	\$ 4,372		(77)%

Exploration and abandonment costs decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 primarily due to less abandoned leasehold costs, plugging and abandonment expenses and a reimbursement from an industry partner for seismic expenses in 2024.

DD&A expense.

DD&A expense and DD&A expense per Boe are as follows (in thousands, except percentages and per Boe amounts):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
DD&A expense	\$ 136,578	\$ 117,420		16%	\$ 395,121	\$ 291,562		36%
DD&A expense per Boe	\$ 28.91	\$ 24.21		19%	\$ 28.91	\$ 24.22		19%

The increase in DD&A in 2024 is primarily due to the increased production associated with our successful horizontal drilling program and the increase in rate can be attributed to significant inflationary pressures on capital costs over the past year.

General and administrative expense.

General and administrative expense and general and administrative expense per Boe as well as stock-based compensation expense are as follows (in thousands, except percentages and per Boe amounts):

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
General and administrative expense	\$ 4,971	\$ 6,934		(28)%	\$ 14,391	\$ 11,952		20%
General and administrative expense per Boe	\$ 1.05	\$ 1.43		(27)%	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.99		(6)%
Stock-based compensation expense	\$ 3,753	\$ 14,057		(73)%	\$ 11,326	\$ 22,095		(49)%

The decrease in general and administrative expense during the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared with the same period in 2023 is primarily the result of the prior year period including nine months of accrued employee bonuses whereas in 2024 we began accruing quarterly in the first quarter and thus only three months are included in the current year period. The increase in general and administrative expense and general and administrative expense per Boe for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 is primarily a result of adding new employees and increased salaries and benefits related to the growth of the Company in addition to higher professional services costs related to the growth of the Company.

Interest expense.

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Term Loan Credit Agreement	\$ 37,828	\$ 7,835		0%	\$ 115,084	\$ 7,835		0%
Senior Credit Facility Agreement	192	—		100%	536	—		100%
Prior Credit Agreement	—	11,421		(100)%	—	30,492		(100)%
10.625% Senior Notes	—	5,460		(100)%	—	18,734		(100)%
10.000% Senior Notes	—	4,625		(100)%	—	15,875		(100)%
Additional interest on 10.625% Senior Notes	—	—		n/m	—	8,330		(100)%
Amortization of discount	2,479	4,033		(0)%	7,385	12,660		(0)%
Amortization of debt issuance costs	2,080	3,648		(0)%	6,199	9,352		(0)%
	<u>\$ 42,579</u>	<u>\$ 37,022</u>		<u>0%</u>	<u>\$ 129,204</u>	<u>\$ 103,278</u>		<u>0%</u>

The increase in interest expense can be attributed to a higher overall debt balance in 2024 compared with 2023 and higher interest rates in 2024 primarily on our Term Loan Credit Agreement compared with interest rates in 2023 on our Prior Credit Agreement, 10.000% Senior Notes and 10.625% Senior Notes. Partially offsetting this increase was a decrease in amortization of discounts and debt issuance costs as a result of the issuance of our longer term \$1.2 billion Term Loan Credit Agreement in mid-September 2023.

Loss on derivative instruments, net.

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Noncash gain (loss) on derivative instruments, net	\$ 33,775	\$ (15,883)		313%	\$ (11,514)	\$ (9,866)		(17)%
Cash paid on settlements of derivative instruments, net	(1,441)	(13,772)		(90)%	(11,897)	(21,032)		43%
Gain (loss) on derivative instruments, net	<u>\$ 32,334</u>	<u>\$ (29,655)</u>		209%	<u>\$ (23,411)</u>	<u>\$ (30,898)</u>		24%

The Company primarily utilizes commodity swap contracts, costless collars, deferred premium collars and deferred premium put option contracts to (i) reduce the effect of price volatility on the commodities the Company produces and sells or consumes, (ii) support the Company's annual capital budget and expenditure plans and (iii) reduce commodity price risk associated with certain capital projects. The Company's Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement require, and previously the Prior Credit Agreement and the indentures governing the Company's 10.000% Senior Notes and 10.625% Senior Notes required, the Company to hedge certain quantities of its projected crude oil production. The Company may also, from time to time, utilize interest rate contracts to reduce the effect of interest rate volatility on the Company's indebtedness. The above mark-to-market gain (loss) and cash settlements relate to crude oil derivative swap contracts, deferred premium collars and deferred premium put option contracts.

Other expense.

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Repairs on production facilities	\$ 1,223	\$ 540		126%	\$ 3,224	\$ 1,526		111%
Storm damage repairs	181	—		100%	181	—		100%
Water treatment contract buyout	—	—		—	—	6,516		(100)%
	<u>\$ 1,404</u>	<u>\$ 540</u>		160%	<u>\$ 3,405</u>	<u>\$ 8,042</u>		(58)%

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company incurred \$1.2 million and \$3.2 million, respectively, primarily related to repairs on a damaged production facility which resulted in a delay in turning several newly completed wells online and \$181,000 and \$181,000, respectively, related to damages sustained during the major rain storm that caused significant flooding throughout the field resulting in a significant amount of production being off-line for a short period of time. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, the Company paid zero and \$6.5 million, respectively, to buyout and terminate a water treatment contract with a former outside board member and incurred other costs of \$540,000 and \$1.5 million, respectively, primarily related to repairs on production facilities that were damaged in a fire that shut in a significant amount of production for a short time.

Provision for income taxes.

	Three Months Ended September 30,			% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,			% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Income tax expense	\$ 15,438	\$ 14,100		9%	\$ 31,985	\$ 38,251		(16)%
Effective income tax rate	23.6%	26.7%		(12)%	27.1%	24.0%		13%

The change in provision for income taxes during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared with the same periods in 2023, was primarily due to the change in income before income taxes for both periods and the reversal of a deferred tax asset related to a temporary difference from restricted stock being reclassified to a permanent difference. The effective income tax rate differs from the statutory rate primarily due to certain aforementioned stock-based compensation revisions, Texas state income taxes and other permanent differences between GAAP income and taxable income. See Note 13 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in "Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)" for additional information.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Liquidity. The Company's primary sources of short-term liquidity are (i) cash and cash equivalents, (ii) net cash provided by operating activities, (iii) unused borrowing capacity under the Senior Credit Facility Agreement, (iv) on an opportunistic basis, other issuances of debt or equity securities and (v) sales of nonstrategic assets.

The Company's short-term and long-term liquidity requirements consist primarily of (i) capital expenditures, (ii) near-term debt maturities, including quarterly mandatory payments under our Term Loan Credit Agreement, (iii) payments of other contractual obligations, (iv) acquisitions of crude oil and natural gas properties and (v) working capital obligations. Funding for these cash needs may be provided by any combination of the Company's sources of liquidity.

2024 capital budget. The Company's capital budget for 2024 is expected to be in the range of approximately \$540 to \$580 million for drilling, completion, facilities and equipping crude oil wells and for field infrastructure buildout and other costs. The 2024 capital budget excludes acquisitions, asset retirement obligations, geological and geophysical expenses, general and administrative expenses and corporate facilities. HighPeak Energy expects to fund its forecasted capital expenditures with cash on its consolidated balance sheet, cash generated by operations and borrowing capacity available under its Senior Credit Facility Agreement. The Company's capital expenditures for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 were \$451.8 million, excluding acquisitions.

However, there are many factors and consequences beyond the Company's control impacting our capital budget, such as policies of the Biden Administration, political and regulatory uncertainties associated with the upcoming U.S. presidential transition, economic downturn or potential recession, geo-political risks and additional actions by businesses, OPEC and other cooperating countries, and governments in response to pandemics, that may have an impact on the Company's future results and drilling plans. For additional information on the risks, see "Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report. The Company is maintaining flexibility in its capital plan and will continue to evaluate drilling and completion activity on an economic basis, with future activity levels assessed monthly.

Capital resources. Cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities are summarized below (in thousands).

	Nine Months Ended September 30,		Change	% Change
	2024	2023		
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 550,873	\$ 521,742	\$ 29,131	6%
Net cash used in investing activities	\$ (475,827)	\$ (937,245)	\$ 461,418	(49)%
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	\$ (133,988)	\$ 536,806	\$ (670,794)	(125)%

Operating activities. The increase in net cash flow provided by operating activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared with 2023, was primarily related to an increase in discretionary cash flow as a result of an increase in revenues less operating and general administrative expenses of approximately \$14.0 million associated with increased production volumes as a result of our successful horizontal drilling program and cost cutting efforts related primarily to power generation and treating and chemical costs plus an increase in other current assets and a decrease in accounts payable and other current liabilities, partially offset by a decrease in accounts receivables.

Investing activities. The decrease in net cash used in investing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2024, compared with 2023, was primarily due to decreases in additions to crude oil and natural gas properties when the Company had fewer drilling rigs and frac crews running on average compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2023.

Financing activities. The Company's significant financing activities are as follows:

- Nine months ended September 30, 2024: The Company made mandatory payments on its Term Loan Credit Facility totaling \$90.0 million, paid \$27.2 million to repurchase 1,849,636 shares of its common stock at an average cost of approximately \$14.73 per share, excluding any potential excise taxes, and paid dividends and dividend equivalents of \$15.1 million and \$1.6 million, respectively.
- Nine months ended September 30, 2023: The Company borrowed \$1.17 billion on the Term Loan Credit Agreement, net of a \$30.0 million original issue discount, and \$255.0 million on the Prior Credit Agreement, received \$155.8 million from a public offering of 14,835,000 shares of common stock and \$1.7 million and \$148,000 in proceeds from the exercise of warrants and stock options, respectively, partially offset by the repayment of the Prior Credit Agreement, 10.625% Senior Notes and 10.000% Senior Notes of \$525.0 million, \$250.0 million and \$225.0 million, respectively, payment of a make whole premium on the 10.625% Senior Notes of \$4.5 million, payment of debt issuance costs and stock issuance costs totaling \$26.4 million and \$5.4 million, respectively, and the payment of dividends and dividend equivalents of \$8.7 million and \$903,000, respectively.

Interest Rate Risk. We are exposed to market risk due to the floating interest rates associated with any outstanding balance on the Term Loan Credit Agreement and the Senior Credit Facility Agreement. As of September 30, 2024, we had a \$1.11 billion outstanding balance on the Term Loan Credit Agreement and zero outstanding on the Senior Credit Facility Agreement. Our Term Loan Credit Agreement fixes the interest rate for all of the principal balance of the Term Loan Credit Agreement at the end of each quarter for a period of three months and the Senior Credit Facility Agreement allows us to fix the interest rate for all or a portion of the principal balance for a period of six months. To the extent the interest rate is fixed, interest rate changes will affect the Term Loan Credit Agreement's and Senior Credit Facility Agreement's fair value but will not impact results of operations or cash flows. Conversely, for the portion of the Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement that has a floating interest rate, interest rate changes will not affect the fair value but will impact future results of operations and cash flows.

Commodity Price Risk. The prices we receive for our crude oil, NGL and natural gas production directly impact our revenue, profitability, access to capital, and future rate of growth. Crude oil, NGL and natural gas prices are subject to unpredictable fluctuations resulting from a variety of factors, including changes in supply and demand and the macroeconomic environment, and seasonal anomalies, all of which are typically beyond our control. The markets for crude oil, NGL and natural gas have been volatile, especially over the last several years. Commodity prices have improved from historic lows in 2020 resulting from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, commodity prices are subject to heightened levels of uncertainty related to geopolitical issues such as the ongoing armed conflicts between Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Hamas and Israel and Iran. The realized prices we receive for our production also depend on numerous factors that are typically beyond our control. Based on our sales volumes during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and excluding the effects on derivatives, a \$1.00 per barrel increase (decrease) in the weighted average crude oil price for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 would have increased (decreased) the Company's revenues by approximately \$15.1 million on an annualized basis and a \$0.10 per Mcf increase (decrease) in the weighted average natural gas price for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 would have increased (decreased) the Company's revenues by approximately \$1.2 million on an annualized basis.

We enter into commodity derivative contracts to reduce the risk of fluctuations in commodity prices. The fair value of our commodity derivative contracts is largely determined by estimates of the forward curves of the relevant price indices. As of September 30, 2024, a \$1.00 increase (decrease) in the forward curves associated with our crude oil commodity derivative instruments would have decreased (increased) our net derivative positions for these products by approximately \$9.1 million.

Contractual obligations. The Company's contractual obligations include leases (primarily related to contracted drilling rigs, equipment and office facilities), capital funding obligations and other liabilities. Other joint owners in the properties operated by the Company could incur portions of the costs represented by these commitments.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

EBITDAX represents net income before interest expense, interest and other income, income taxes, depletion, depreciation, and amortization, accretion of discount on asset retirement obligations, exploration and abandonment expense, non-cash stock-based compensation expense, noncash derivative gains and losses, other expense, gains and losses on divestitures and certain other items. EBITDAX excludes certain items we believe affect the comparability of operating results and can exclude items that are generally non-recurring in nature or whose timing and/or amount cannot be reasonably estimated. EBITDAX is a non-GAAP measure that we believe provides useful additional information to investors and analysts, as a performance measure, for analysis of our ability to internally generate funds for exploration, development, acquisitions, and to service debt. In addition, EBITDAX is widely used by professional research analysts and others in the valuation, comparison, and investment recommendations of companies in the crude oil and natural gas exploration and production industry, and many investors use the published research of industry research analysts in making investment decisions. EBITDAX should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for net income, income from operations, net cash provided by operating activities, or other profitability or liquidity measures prepared under GAAP. Because EBITDAX excludes some, but not all items that affect net income and may vary among companies, the EBITDAX amounts presented may not be comparable to similar metrics of other companies.

We are also subject to financial covenants under our Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement based on EBITDAX ratios as further described in Note 7 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in "Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)" of this Quarterly Report. The Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement provide a material source of liquidity for us. Under the terms of our Term Loan Credit Agreement and the Senior Credit Facility Agreement, if we fail to comply with the covenants that establish a maximum permitted ratio of total net leverage or a minimum permitted ratio of asset coverage, we would be in default, an event that would accelerate repayments under the Term Loan Credit Agreement and prevent us from borrowing under the Senior Credit Facility Agreement and would therefore materially limit a significant source of our liquidity. In addition, if we are in default under the Term Loan Credit Agreement and the Senior Credit Facility Agreement and are unable to obtain a waiver of that default from our lenders, they would be entitled to exercise all their remedies for default.

The following table provides a reconciliation of our net income (GAAP) to EBITDAX (non-GAAP) for the periods presented (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Net income	\$ 49,933	\$ 38,779	\$ 86,088	\$ 120,862
Interest expense	42,579	37,022	129,204	103,278
Interest income	(2,172)	(730)	(6,964)	(923)
Income tax expense	15,438	14,100	31,985	38,251
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	136,578	117,420	395,121	291,562
Accretion of discount	241	122	722	360
Exploration and abandonment expense	362	1,728	1,027	4,372
Stock based compensation	3,753	14,057	11,326	22,095
Derivative related noncash activity	(33,775)	15,883	11,514	9,866
Loss on extinguishment of debt	—	27,300	—	27,300
Other expense	1,404	540	3,405	8,042
EBITDAX	<u>\$ 214,341</u>	<u>\$ 266,221</u>	<u>\$ 663,428</u>	<u>\$ 625,065</u>

New Accounting Pronouncements

Our historical condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes to condensed consolidated financial statements contain information that is pertinent to our management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations. Preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires that our management make estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. However, the accounting principles used by us generally do not change our reported cash flows or liquidity. Interpretation of the existing rules must be done, and judgments made on how the specifics of a given rule apply to us.

In management's opinion, the more significant reporting areas impacted by management's judgments and estimates are the choice of accounting method for crude oil and natural gas activities, crude oil, NGL and natural gas reserve estimation, asset retirement obligations, impairment of long-lived assets, valuation of stock-based compensation, valuation of business combinations, accounting and valuation of nonmonetary transactions, litigation and environmental contingencies, valuation of financial derivative instruments, uncertain tax positions and income taxes.

Management's judgments and estimates in all the areas listed above are based on information available from both internal and external sources, including engineers, geologists and historical experience in similar matters. Actual results could differ from the estimates as additional information becomes known.

There have been no material changes in our critical accounting policies and procedures during the three months ended September 30, 2024. See our disclosure of critical accounting policies in "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of our Annual Report.

New accounting pronouncements issued but not yet adopted. The effects of new accounting pronouncements are discussed in Note 2 of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements included in "Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)."

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company's major market risk exposure is the pricing it receives for its sales of crude oil, NGL and natural gas. Pricing for crude oil, NGL and natural gas has been volatile and unpredictable for several years, and HighPeak Energy expects this volatility to continue in the future.

During the period from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2024, the calendar month average NYMEX WTI crude oil price per Bbl ranged from a low of \$16.70 to a high of \$114.34, and the last trading day NYMEX natural gas price per MMBtu ranged from a low of \$1.50 to a high of \$9.35. A \$1.00 per barrel increase (decrease) in the weighted average crude oil price for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 would have increased (decreased) the Company's revenues by approximately \$15.1 million on an annualized basis, excluding the effects of derivatives, and a \$0.10 per Mcf increase (decrease) in the weighted average natural gas price for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 would have increased (decreased) the Company's revenues by approximately \$1.2 million on an annualized basis, excluding the effects of derivatives.

Due to this volatility, the Company uses commodity derivative instruments, such as swaps, puts and collars, to hedge price risk associated with a portion of anticipated production. These hedging instruments allow the Company to reduce, but not eliminate, the potential effects of the variability in cash flow from operations due to fluctuations in crude oil and natural gas prices and provide increased certainty of cash flows for its drilling program. These instruments provide only partial price protection against declines in crude oil and natural gas prices and may partially limit the Company's potential gains from future increases in prices. The Company enters into hedging arrangements to protect its capital expenditure budget. The Company's Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement require the Company to hedge certain quantities of its projected crude oil production. The Company does not enter into any commodity derivative instruments, including derivatives, for speculative or trading purposes.

Counterparty and Customer Credit Risk. The Company's derivative contracts, if any, expose it to credit risk in the event of nonperformance by counterparties. It is anticipated that if the Company enters into any commodity contracts, the collateral defined in the Collateral Agency Agreement may be used as collateral for the Company's commodity derivatives. The Company evaluates the credit standing of its counterparties as it deems appropriate. It is anticipated that any counterparties to HighPeak Energy's derivative contracts would have investment grade ratings.

The Company's principal exposures to credit risk are through receivables from the sale of crude oil and natural gas production due to the concentration of its crude oil and natural gas receivables with a few significant customers. The inability or failure of the Company's significant customers to meet their obligations to the Company or their insolvency or liquidation may adversely affect the Company's financial results.

The average forward prices based on September 30, 2024 market quotes were as follows:

	Remainder of 2024	Year Ending December 31, 2025
Average forward NYMEX crude oil price per Bbl	\$ 67.56	\$ 66.76
Average forward NYMEX natural gas price per MMBtu	\$ 3.13	\$ 3.39

The average forward prices based on October 31, 2024 market quotes were as follows:

	Remainder of 2024	Year Ending December 31, 2025
Average forward NYMEX crude oil price per Bbl	\$ 68.68	\$ 67.39
Average forward NYMEX natural gas price per MMBtu	\$ 2.71	\$ 3.02

Credit Risk. The Company's primary concentration of credit risk is associated with (i) the collection of receivables resulting from the sale of crude oil and natural gas production and (ii) the risk of a counterparty's failure to meet its obligations under derivative contracts with the Company.

The Company monitors exposure to counterparties primarily by reviewing credit ratings, financial criteria and payment history. Where appropriate, the Company obtains assurances of payment, such as a guarantee by the parent company of the counterparty or other credit support. The Company's crude oil and natural gas is sold to various purchasers who must be prequalified under the Company's credit risk policies and procedures. Historically, the Company's credit losses on crude oil and natural gas receivables have not been material.

The Company uses credit and other financial criteria to evaluate the credit standing of, and to select, counterparties to its derivative instruments. Although the Company does not obtain collateral or otherwise secure the fair value of its derivative instruments, associated credit risk is mitigated by the Company's credit risk policies and procedures.

The Company entered into International Swap Dealers Association Master Agreements ("ISDA Agreements") with its derivative counterparties. The terms of the ISDA Agreements provide the Company and the counterparties with right of set off upon the occurrence of defined acts of default by either the Company or a counterparty to a derivative contract, whereby the party not in default may set off all derivative liabilities owed to the defaulting party against all derivative asset receivables from the defaulting party.

Interest Rate Risk. As of September 30, 2024, we had \$1.11 billion outstanding under the Term Loan Credit Agreement and had \$93.1 million of available borrowing capacity under the Senior Credit Facility Agreement. The Company is subject to interest rate risk on its variable rate debt from our Term Loan Credit Agreement and Senior Credit Facility Agreement. The Company also periodically has fixed rate debt but does not currently utilize derivative instruments to manage the economic effect of changes in interest rates. The impact of a 1% increase in interest rates on our outstanding debt as of September 30, 2024 would have resulted in an annual increase in interest expense of approximately \$11.1 million.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As required by Rule 13a-15(b) under the Exchange Act, HighPeak Energy has evaluated, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including HighPeak Energy's principal executive officer and principal financial officer, the effectiveness of the design and operation of its disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of the end of the fiscal period covered by this Quarterly Report. Based on that evaluation, HighPeak Energy's principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective, as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report, in ensuring that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, including that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) that occurred during the three months ended September 30, 2024 that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time, the Company may be a party to various lawsuits, proceedings and claims incidental to its business. While many of these matters involve inherent uncertainty, the Company believes that the amount of the liability, if any, ultimately incurred with respect to these proceedings and claims will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position as a whole or on its liquidity, capital resources or future results of operations.

On May 29, 2024, a purported HighPeak stockholder filed a derivative lawsuit in the Delaware Court of Chancery against various current and former HighPeak directors, alleging that the Company's directors breached their fiduciary duties in approving the compensation awarded to the Company's CEO and President and that the Company's CEO was unjustly enriched by the compensation. The initial complaint alleged that the Company's directors engaged in an inadequate process and approved excessive compensation in the years 2020 through 2023. After the defendants filed a motion to dismiss the initial complaint, the plaintiff filed an amended complaint on September 30, 2024. The amended complaint removed the plaintiff's challenge to the Company's President's compensation, but it continues to challenge the compensation awarded to the Company's CEO in "at least 2022, 2023, and 2024." The plaintiff seeks to recover purported damages on behalf of the Company, disgorgement of the Company's CEO's compensation, an order requiring HighPeak to make various changes to its corporate governance policies, attorneys' fees, and other relief. The Company believes the lawsuit is without merit and intends to vigorously defend against it.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the information set forth in this Quarterly Report, the risks that are discussed in the Company's Annual Report under the headings "Risk Factors," "Business and Properties," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk," should be carefully considered, as such risks could materially affect the Company's business, financial condition or future results. There has been no material change in the Company's risk factors that were described in the Company's Annual Report.

ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS*Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities*

Our common stock repurchase activity for the three months ended September 30, 2024 was as follows:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased ⁽¹⁾	Average Price Paid Per Share ⁽²⁾	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plan	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet to Be Purchased Under the Plan ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾
(\$ in thousands, except per share amounts and shares)				
July 1, 2024 - July 31, 2024	116,868	\$ 14.13	116,868	\$ 58,831
August 1, 2024 - August 31, 2024	331,536	\$ 15.06	331,536	\$ 53,849
September 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024	422,243	\$ 14.34	422,243	\$ 47,809
Total	870,647	\$ 14.58	870,647	

(1) Such shares are cancelled and retired.

(2) The average price paid per share includes any commissions paid to repurchase stock.

(3) In February 2024, our Board approved a stock repurchase program for up to \$75.0 million, excluding excise taxes and other expenses. The stock repurchase program expires on December 31, 2024 and may be suspended, modified, or discontinued by the Board at any time.

(4) The IRA of 2022, which was enacted into law on August 16, 2022, imposed a nondeductible 1% excise tax on the net value of certain stock repurchases made after December 31, 2022. All dollar amounts presented exclude such excise taxes, as applicable.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

During the three months ended September 30, 2024, no director or officer of the Company adopted or terminated a "Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement" or "non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement," as each term is defined in Item 408 of Regulation S-K.

On October 31, 2024, our Board requested that our Chief Executive Officer, President and certain other employees extend the vesting schedules of their restricted stock awards from November 4, 2024 to December 31, 2025, and they agreed to amend their restricted stock award agreements. Our Board desired to ensure the restricted stock previously granted would continue to provide retention value to the Company. In consideration of their agreement, they will be eligible to receive 2024 annual bonuses that would, but for the extension of their restricted stock vesting schedules, not have been awarded.

HIGHPEAK ENERGY, INC.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1	<u>Second Amended & Restated Certificate of Incorporation of HighPeak Energy, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company' s Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39464) filed with the SEC on June 2, 2023).</u>
3.2	<u>Amended and Restated Bylaws of HighPeak Energy, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company' s Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39464) filed with the SEC on November 9, 2020).</u>
4.1	<u>Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of August 21, 2020, by and among HighPeak Energy, Inc., HighPeak Pure Acquisition, LLC, HighPeak Energy, LP, HighPeak Energy II, LP, HighPeak Energy III, LP and certain other security holders named therein (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39464) filed with the SEC on August 27, 2020).</u>
4.2	<u>Stockholders' Agreement, dated as of August 21, 2020, by and among HighPeak Energy, Inc., HighPeak Pure Acquisition, LLC, HighPeak Energy, LP, HighPeak Energy II, LP, HighPeak Energy III, LP, Jack Hightower and certain directors of Pure Acquisition Corp. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39464) filed with the SEC on August 27, 2020).</u>
4.3	<u>Amendment and Assignment to Warrant Agreement, dated as of August 21, 2020, by and among Pure Acquisition Corp., Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company and HighPeak Energy, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company 's Registration Statement on Form S-4 and Form S-1 (File No. 333-235313) filed with the SEC on August 5, 2020).</u>
31.1*	<u>Certification of the Company's Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 (18 U.S.C. Section 7241).</u>
31.2*	<u>Certification of the Company's Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 (18 U.S.C. Section 7241).</u>
32.1**	<u>Certification of the Company's Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 (18 U.S.C. Section 1350).</u>
32.2**	<u>Certification of the Company's Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 (18 U.S.C. Section 1350).</u>
101.INS**	Inline XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH**	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL**	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF**	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB**	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE**	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101).

* Filed herewith.

** Furnished herewith.

HIGHPEAK ENERGY, INC.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereto duly authorized.

HIGHPEAK ENERGY, INC.

November 4, 2024

By: /s/ Steven Tholen

Steven Tholen
Chief Financial Officer

November 4, 2024

By: /s/ Keith Forbes

Keith Forbes
Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I, Jack Hightower, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of HighPeak Energy, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Jack Hightower

Jack Hightower
Chief Executive Officer
Date: November 4, 2024

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I, Steven Tholen, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of HighPeak Energy, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Steven Tholen

Steven Tholen

Chief Financial Officer

Date: November 4, 2024

CERTIFICATION OF
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OF HIGHPEAK ENERGY, INC.
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. § 1350

I, Jack Hightower, President and Chief Executive Officer of HighPeak Energy, Inc. (the "Company"), hereby certify, in the capacity and on the date indicated below, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge, the accompanying Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2024:

1. Fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. Fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Jack Hightower

Jack Hightower

Chief Executive Officer

Date: November 4, 2024

**CERTIFICATION OF
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
OF HIGHPEAK ENERGY, INC.
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. § 1350**

I, Steven Tholen, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of HighPeak Energy, Inc. (the "Company"), hereby certify, in the capacity and on the date indicated below, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge, the accompanying Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2024:

1. Fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. Fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Steven Tholen

Steven Tholen

Chief Financial Officer

Date: November 4, 2024